

## YELLOWHILL TRIBAL COUNCIL CANDIDATE

# Arizona Jane Blankenship

Together We Will Weave A Stronger Tribal Legacy:

Thru Connection - With Mutual Respect and Spiritual Guidance We Shall Engage All Our Tribal And Community Members In A Shared Vision That Will Sustain Our Tribe For Generations To Come;

Thru Contribution - We Will "Give Back" & "Lift Up" As We Climb; and

Thru Commitment – We Will Weave Together Our Cultural Knowledge And Tribal Values With Modern Education To Strengthen Our Sovereign Nation For The Benefit Of Us All And Those Who Follow



I learned to make river cane double weave baskets in honor of my great-grandmother, Arizona Swayney Blankenship. She taught basket weaving at the Hampton Institute where she attended boarding school.

And now as I teach others to weave, I say: "The basket is woven by many hands, not just mine or yours; all our teachers and inspirations are what made its creation possible. It is a basket created by many; not just one."

Our Tribe is woven by many hands. We owe it to our ancestors and our descendents to remember this thru honor to ourselves and each other.

I offer my determination, responsibility, education, attitude and motivation to represent you, our community, and our Tribal Nation.

S'gi,

Arizona Jane Blankenship

About Me: Granddaughter of the late Roy and Georgia Blankenship & the late Jacob Wolfe and my 94 year old Grandma Lula Reed Owl. Eldest daughter of Retired Colonel Bob and Laura Blankenship, 3 brothers, 4 sisters, Jack and Zeka.

Cherokee High School Valedictorian of 1976 Class, Bachelor of Arts in Business Management at North Carolina State University, Masters of Business Administration at Western Carolina University. North Carolina Real Estate Broker. Certified Employee Benefits Specialist (CEBS designation).

Over 30 years of Tribal Government and Federal Government Service in Business Development, Housing, Real Estate Services, Employee Benefits and Compensation. Experience with the preparation of Small Business Administration loan applications, evaluation and preparation of real estate transactions, including commercial leases and deeds of trust, drafting of Tribal Council Resolutions, and current responsibility for the administration of multi-million dollar employee benefits plans.

Represented the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians at National Tribal Associations and Federal Government and Internal Revenue Service hearings regarding our sovereign status as a Tribal Nation.