

. . . except for the oldest, he, . . . took it hard, he thought I was going to die. And we almost had to take him for counseling because what he knows of cancer is that when you have it, you're going to die. And when he thought he was losing his mother, he had a tough time in school, and . . . well counseling, . . . local friends like pastors and stuff and they helped him and he got through it.



**Carolyn Spotted Horse** [Crow]



Hans [is] my 15 year old. Hans was up in Nome . . . And so I said, 'Hans I've been diagnosed with cancer. I'm going to have to have surgery at some point. Do you what to stay up there or do you what to come home?' He said, 'No, I'm coming home.'

**Caroline Shubert** [Eskimo]

nieces and nephews [helped me survive]. When they'd see me starting to get in a sad mood or starting to get depressed, and . . . or I'd go to their place and play with the kids . . . I don't want to . . . forget this, I want to be here, I want to watch them grow up. . . . I was always happier around the little kids, and it was, . . . good to be around family cause they . . . were there in case I needed someone to lean on and they always tried to keep me busy. And of course my favorite pass-time was eating (laughter) so, my sisters always had . . . baked good around and of course I loved to eat Native foods. . . . [my sister], my little niece, all three of us would



**Esther Venes** [Inupiaq/Yupik]