



Charles Chuck Weldon had gone down onto the river ice that morning, and was suddenly stricken with a heart attack.

His family carried him up the river bank, and he died in a few minutes.

Chuck was a buried on January 5, 1936 in Belle Plaine, Scott, Minnesota.



On the top picture is the Indian settlement on the north side of the Minnesota River in what is now Eden Prairie. It was not a reservation. The land was purchased by Oyatekokepa Jacob Otherday. The 18 acres was purchased in 1871. On the bottom is a picture of some of the Dakota who lived there.



For more information about Charles Chuck Weldon and Tínta Otunwe, visit Hočokata Ti [ho-cho-kah-tah-tee] the Shakopee Mdwakanton Sioux Community's (SMSC) cultural center and gathering space. The public exhibit, "Mdwakanton: Dwellers of the Spirit Lake," enhance the knowledge and understanding of the Mdwakanton Dakota people and their history. Hočokata Ti is at 2300 Tiwahe Circle, Shakopee, MN 55379. (952) 233-9151.



A Minnesota angler. Photograph by Kenneth Melvin Wright, ca. 1926.



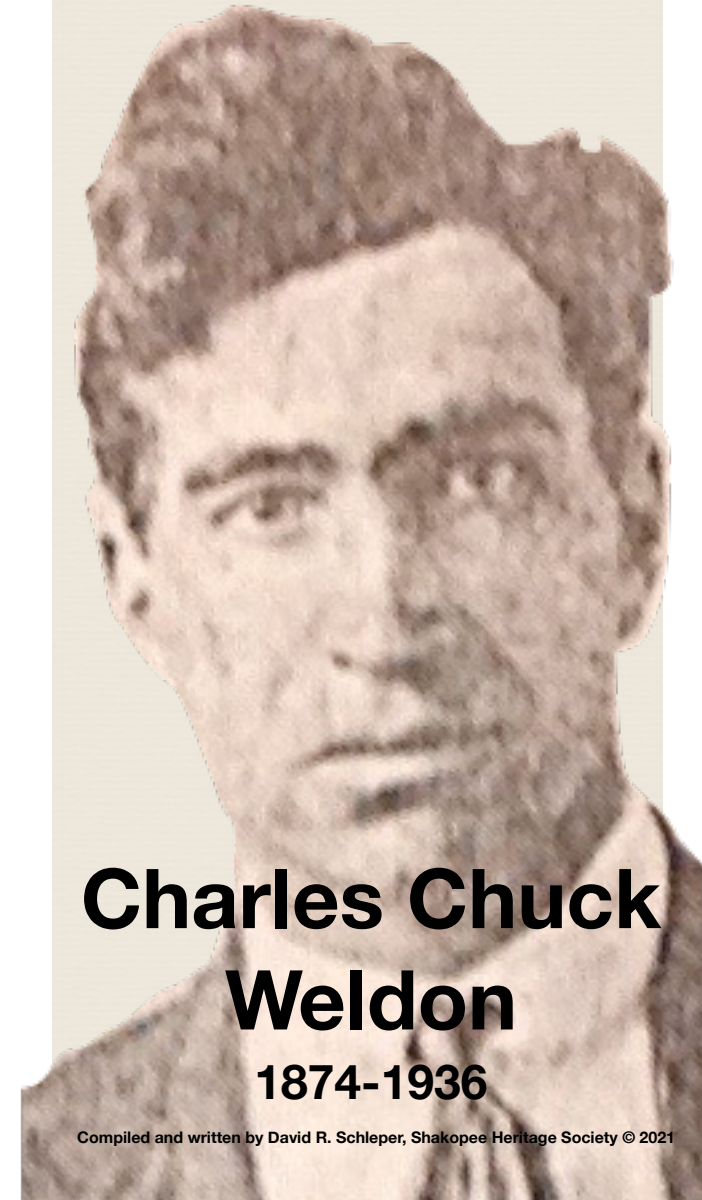
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## SHAKOPEE HERITAGE SOCIETY



**Charles Chuck  
Weldon**  
1874-1936



Charles (Chuck) Weldon was born in St. Paul, Minnesota in 1874. He was part Dakota Indian. He was adopted by David Crocker Weldon and Marie-Rose Moran from New Prague. Chuck's new father was David Crockett Weldon, who was born in August, 1937 in Michigan. He died on April 3, 1903 in Hastings, Minnesota. His mother was Marie Rose Morin who was born on August 14, 1851 in Minnesota, and died on September 11, 1924 in Minnesota.

In October 15, 1918 in Hennepin County, Minnesota, Chuck married Minnie Josephine Otherday. Minnie Josephine Otherday was born in a tioti on July 24, 1877 on the north side of the Minnesota River in Tínta Oturŋwe. Her parents were Oyatekokepa Jacob Otherday, and Hapstíŋna Makaakanjwaŋkewiŋ Black Flute Lucy Otherday. Minnie Otherday was a direct descendant of Dakota that once reigned supreme in the Minnesota Valley, and are still here today. Her grandmother was the sister of Dakota leader Śakpe II, whom the city of Shakopee was named.



On the left is the road on the north side of the Minnesota River. It used to be called Indian Road. Several Dakota children are playing on the road.

On right is a picture of Minnie Otherday Weldon, Charles Chuck Weldon, and their first two children.

Both pictures from the Huber Collection of the Shakopee Heritage Society.



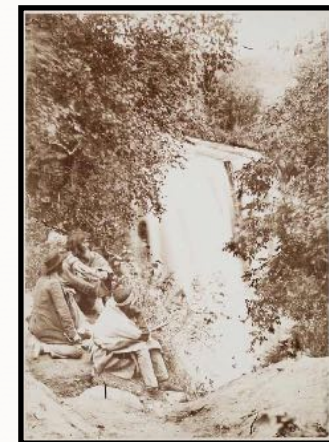
Chuck and Minnie lived with other Dakota Indians on 18 acres in 1871, directly across the Minnesota River. On this land, the Mdewakantonŋwaŋ, the Spirit Lake People lived, not far from which used to be Tínta Oturŋwe. They caught fish and turtles with spears and hooks, caught the mink, muskrats, and beavers along the shore, the cranberries grown in profusion in the lowlands, and the wild rice which was plentiful on the lakes on the valley floor.

Charles Chuck Weldon was a fisherman, and with Minnie they lived on the bottomland of the Minnesota River. Chuck and his family moved to Shakopee, and lived on the north side of the Minnesota River. He was a clam fisherman who plied the Minnesota River and made fishing his chief pursuit.

They had four sons and a daughter, all born in the east part of Shakopee. The daughter was Elizabeth Rose Lizzie Weldon, who married Bernard Howard Vig, and their son, Charles Richard Vig spent eight years as the chairperson of the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community.

Charles was married four times. One wife died, two were divorced from him, and his surviving spouse was Juanita Sue, a Wisconsin Chippewa. Charles Chuck Weldon's household include children from the several marriages.

According to the *Belle Plaine Herald*, in the beginning of January 1936 Charlie died of heart failure down by the Minnesota River.



Minnehaha Falls with Sioux Indians in the foreground by Benjamin Franklin Upton from the Minnesota Historical Society.