WEAVING AND QUILTING

from Washington Notebook Inspired by the quilters and basket-makers who wove our stories together in the early days of settlement. ©1989 Linda Allen

My grandmother's hands wove the cedar and bear grass Into this fine basket I hold in my hands To hold bitter roots, camas, fern, tiger lily Blackberries, cranberries - gifts from the land

My great-grandma Towsalee passed on her knowledge To her daughter Sally - she was only six then Our tribes own designs such as Salmon Gill, Trail of Eel, Flowers for women and deer for the men

My grandmother's hands worked with bright colored fabrics Taken from dresses I wore long ago With strong cotton thread and the finest of needles Weaving my memories in patterns she'd sew

My great grandma Eleanor passed on her knowledge To her daughter Susan when she was just nine Lone Star, Log Cabin, the sweet Rose of Sharon Basket, Medallion - her favorite designs