

## Deer Clan Mother's Song<sup>©</sup>

Dorothy Sullivan

Her Light dances with the fireflies in the night. Deer Clan Mother's song is of peace. Her Prayer is for the Light of Understanding to Awaken in All People and they will respect the Life Within One Another.

The stories of our elders hold important lessons that can be significant instruction for succeeding generations. The Cherokee Legend of the Deer Clan Woman seems to hold an appropriate truth for the survival of our World today—that of Peace, Understanding, and the Respect For Life Among All People. In my painting, the Deer Clan Mother, her child which is the hope of all people on her lap, shows how the light of understanding above her hand changes into peace. Below her, when people reach out to each other, the light of understanding awakens. The Cherokee Rose, symbol of the Cherokee Trail of Tears, encircles the painting; to show the importance of peace and understanding in our world today. The Blue Memory Circle represents wisdom and heritage from the past.

To Chief Wilma Mankiller  
from Dorothy Sullivan  
7-20-93