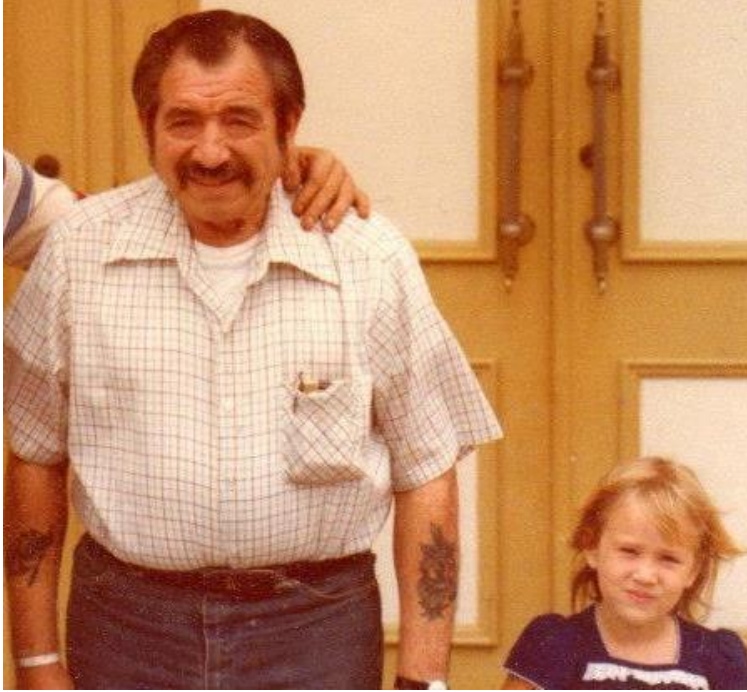


# Employee Spotlight



Working at GCCCD we don't often realize that we get to work with people from all walks of life. We make up the cultural salad of GCCCD, each bringing a unique piece of insight to the bowl.

Below are idea suggestions. Share a little or as much as you like about your customs, culture, and background to let us know about YOU!!

Have fun and support learning!

Name: **Yvette Irene Macy**

Dept.: **Payroll Department**

## About this picture:

This is a picture of me and my grandfather. He served in the US Navy as a Gunner's Mate First Class in World War II. My grandfather always said he was half Spanish, half Cherokee Indian.

## Where I come from:

My parents grew up in Imperial Beach and National City. I was born at Mercy Hospital in San Diego. We moved out to "the boonies" (El Cajon) in 1976, back when the stars lit up the sky like you were out in the country. My family celebrates blended traditions. For example, from my dad's side, we make homemade tamales for Christmas. From my mom's side we cook a traditional Thanksgiving dinner with scalloped corn, riced potatoes, and apple yam casserole. My mom always had an old Irish blessing hanging on her kitchen wall, and I was referred to as "Mija" by my Aunt Emma. My maiden name Hoyt is a Norse name meaning "soul" or "spirit". I can appreciate my parent's ability to respect each other's backgrounds and also allow me the freedom to be myself.

## Interesting facts about my heritage, culture (s), family, me:

In 2008, my mom was diagnosed with polymyositis. Confined to her wheelchair, she spent a lot of time on her computer and found a website called Ancestry.com. The next five years, she researched our lineage trying to record the Cherokee Indian on my dad's side. She was led to Germany, Holland, Ireland, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, England, Spain, South America and North America. She found connections to Princess Diana and John Wilkes Booth in our family tree. One day she called and asked if I knew a Karen Bishop at Grossmont College. Karen had contacted her on Ancestry.Com. She found out that Karen and I are cousins! It is a small world in deed! My mom passed away in April, leaving behind binders and binders full of our family history and lineage. What a legacy!

## What I would like you to know:

I like to joke about my parents being hippies and that I was a love child. But really, I was quite fortunate to have the parents I did. I was raised to love all genres of music, art, and theater. My mom sewed my clothes and costumes and made amazing quilts. My dad and I used to sing together while he played guitar. (Nowadays we karaoke) He is also a brilliant craftsman in woodworking. My grandfather was an artist and painted western landscapes. I have never known my life without art or music. What an amazing ride. Thanks for giving me the opportunity to share. Yvette Macy

"And, in the end...the love you take is equal to the love you make." – Paul McCartney

Please submit completed forms to Sandy Rosenthal ( [sandy.rosenthal@gcccd.edu](mailto:sandy.rosenthal@gcccd.edu) )