

**Ervera Stirling** 

Eruera Stirling, an elder of the Bay of Plenty died at his home in Auckland in October aged 84.

Mourners gathered at Hoani Waititi marae to farewell Eruera Stirling before his body was taken to his marae at Raukokore, Bay of Plenty.

His wife, Amiria died in April this year and the couple are now buried alongside each other.

The couple farmed at Raukokore from their marriage in 1918 until 1945 when ill health prompted their move to Auckland.

Eruera Stirling was educated at the Kirieke School of Learning in the eastern Bay of Plenty, attended Te Aute College, and in 1983 received an honorary doctorate of literature from Auckland University. He worked with the Auckland District Maori Council, the Maori Women's Welfare League, the Maori Artists and Writers Society and the Orakei, Mangere, Hoani Waititi marae.

In 1977 he received an MBE. Much of the lore of his people was recorded by Anne Salmond in 1981 in the book: Eruera: The teachings of a Maori elder.

Amiria Stirling and Peter Sharples



Tu Tangata Business Conference, Tamaki-ma-kaurau 1982.