



Transition

David explained that the pole represents personal growth and transition. *The pole represents the family: the mother, the father, and the child. The Seal represents the family's food supply. We share the earth with the Killer Whale and Seal, and they share it with us; we affect each other. The Seal, Killer Whale, and Man share the wealth of the sea, namely Salmon* (David Marston, Interview, Oct 2012). David's nephew Peter Francis worked with him during the three months it took to carve the pole. In cutting between the top and middle whale they used great care to not overcut and lose the integrity of the shape of the pole.

In describing the whales on the pole, David said: *the Killer Whale is the helper spirit of fishermen.* His inspiration for the pole was from his friends and his wife, Jane Marston.©



KILLER WHALES
(Q'UL-LHANUMUTSUN)

SEAL
('ES-HW)

1989 | Size: 16'5" (5 m)

David Marston

David was born in 1944, and is of Algonquin and English heritage. He comes from a family of woodworkers and carvers. His inspiration continues today through his sons Luke and John Marston. David started with a pocketknife at age seven. He is mainly self-taught, but was influenced by Lloyd Haarala (Anishinaabe) and master carver Simon Charlie.©



Courtesy of Jane Mertz.

