

# Chief Ouray



## Ute Chief of Peace

**B**orn near Taos, New Mexico, his father was a Jicarilla Apache adopted into the Ute tribe by marriage to Ouray's mother, a Tabeguache Ute. Ouray ("The Arrow") arrived on this earth in 1833. The same year that the night skies of the Colorado Territory glowed spectacularly from over 200,000 falling stars – the greatest meteor shower known to man – that of the Leonids (November 13, 1833).



Passionate for the welfare of the Utes to live in peaceful coexistence with the whites, Ouray is remembered for these words: ***“the agreement an Indian makes to a United States treaty is like the agreement a buffalo makes with his hunter when pierced with arrows. All he can do is lie down and give in.”***

The image for this collectible stamp is a reproduction of an engraving known only to exist on counter checks provided by the Bank of Ouray (Colorado) in 1904. Only a few of the original checks remain today. The engraver of Ouray's image is unknown, but it is believed that he later worked for the American Bank Note Company. This stamp was originally created in a similar design in 2002. It was selected by the U. S. Bureau of Printing & Engraving Federal Managers Association for use as part of a “going away” collectible in 2005, issued by the Bureau immediately following the closure of the BEP Stamp Division. Marking the end to a 111 year-long era of stamp making by the BEP, a result of budget cuts by the United States Postal Service.

### Did You Know?

There are a number of places in the State of Colorado that are named after Chief Ouray. Including the town of Ouray, Colorado. A fun addition to this collector page is to prepare a cover envelope bearing one of the Chief Ouray stamps and send it off to receive a postmark from the Ouray, Colorado post office. Be sure to put your address on the cover so that it will return directly to you, along with sufficient First Class postage. Place the cover inside another envelope addressed to the Postmaster and enclose a note requesting that the cover be hand cancelled. Send it to:

Postmaster  
Ouray Post Office  
620 Main St.  
Ouray, CO 81427-9997

When you receive the cover back in the mail, use this space to mount it.