

In tracing his ancestry, Mr. Young refers to genealogy records showing that he is one of the sixth generation of descendants of Ghi-ga-u, possibly the most famous and well-known of Indian women in the history of the Cherokees. Ghi-ga-u is most often called Nancy Ward, but in respect to Cherokee history her proper name was Nancy Kingfisher. Her second husband, Brian Ward, was not of Indian blood, and history records that he did little to match the honor and bravery displayed by Kingfisher. Ghi-ga-u is believed to have been born about 1740, but her place of birth and the names of her parents are lost to historical accounts. Historical records reveal at the age of 15, Nancy Ward was mature for her age, and was a beautiful, intelligent, and queenly woman. Yet, she was much more. Even at 15 years old, she was married to a young warrior by the name of Kingfisher, and she accompanied her husband while fighting the Creeks. At the Battle of Taliwa, Kingfisher was killed; and she took up his rifle and fought as a warrior during the remainder of the battle.

Some of these qualities of Ghi-ga-u seems to have passed down through her descendants as one visits, or in the past has known them. The qualities of honesty, belief in principals, unafraid to speak in support of the truth, and displaying a resourcefulness so necessary in the life of his forebearers. The Thompsons, Mr. Young's maternal ancestry of Cherokee blood, came to this country from Georgia sometime after the forced removal. First to arrive were Jim and William Thompson who settled in the community of Gideon. A couple of years later John and Bob Thompson came to Indian Territory and John settled in the Eureka community and Bob settled in the Mt. Zion area. A short time later George Young's grandfather, Caleb Starr Thompson, left his home in Georgia and came to Indian Territory, making his home in the Mt. Zion country where he lived until he died. His grandfather was best known in the Indian Territory as "Uncle Coosa," as he was known to the Cherokees