

(Had a little something to do with the seasons, doesn't it? Like right before spring--)

And then.

(Right before hot weather comes. And then right before cold weather comes.)

Yeah.

MOTHER DIED WHEN IDA WAS SIX YEARS OLD

(So, you all lived up there, where did you say, up around Stilwell?)

Uh-huh. About six or seven miles south of Stilwell. What is now known as Bell Community, I guess, up there around there.

(Bell.)

Uh-huh.

(And you lived there till, how old were you?)

Well, well, we lived around there till I was around about, oh six years old, I guess.

(Uh-huh.)

FATHER SENT IDA AND YOUNGER SISTER TO SEQUOYAH ORPHANAGE - TWELVE YEARS

And then my dad was fortunate enough to send us to school, my younger sister and I. See, we were left orphans when I was three. My mother passed away.

(Your mother died.)

Yeah. My baby sister wasn't a year old and so my dad had the work of raising us up. So he had never had an education. None at all. So, he did us a good turn by sending us to what was known as the orphan school over here at Sequoyah.

(Uh-huh.)

It's Sequoyah High School, now. So that's where he sent us. And most of our lives, through the winter, nine months of the year was spent there at school.

(How many years did you go there?)