

Myrtle and her husband supported themselves by farming on tribal land and doing farm labor for neighboring white farmers. They moved to a place near Cantonment in 1936, and Myrtle has lived at this place ever since. Myrtle has also worked as a cleaning woman in Canton. She now lives on a very small Social Security allotment and a small income from a land lease. She is well-known to Indians and whites in the Canton area and her status as a Gold Star mother has earned her a great deal of respect. She appears to be in very good health, for her age, and is active and quick and alert.

LAST SUN DANCES IN OKLAHOMA: LEADERS

--Plenty Bear. But he was from Wyoming. And we was married down here. Married to my aunt Bessie. And Old Man Ute and Leslie Throws First. That's the three I know that was running the last two Sun Dances.

(That was Plenty Bear, and Old Man Ute and Leslie Throws First?)

Yeah.

(You said Plenty Bear was from Wyoming?)

He married my aunt. Her name was Bessie.

(Then the others, this Leslie Throws First and Old Man Ute, are they from Oklahoma?)

This one is from Wyoming, too. This is his father. But Ute is from Oklahoma.

(Leslie is the son of Plenty Bear?)

Yeah.

(What ever happened to these men?)

Well, this old man, Plenty Bear, he had pneumonia and he died.

And then this old man--I never did know when he died. He lived down at Geary.

(Ute?)

Ute, yeah. And I heard he died. I don't know what year, but he died.