

(This is an interview given on Thanksgiving Day, November 27, 1969, by Mrs. Lucinda Tiger of Eufaula, Oklahoma.)

I am Shirley Jean Fish, daughter of Elizabeth Coker Fish and Noah K. Fish, Sr. I was born on October 15, 1934 at Holdenville, Oklahoma. I now reside with my father, Noah K. Fish, Sr. six and a half miles south of Wewoka. I am Creek and Seminole Indian. At the age of two and a half years old I contracted polio and was transferred to Tulsa, Oklahoma, by my doctor, Pryor, in Holdenville. And by his orders, after the crisis, I had polio also pneumonia and double pneumonia and after the crisis were over he suggested to my mother that I go to Marlin, Texas, which was the closest handicap therapy place that possibly I could receive aid, where I may be able to restore some of my muscles where I wouldn't be completely a handicap. Some people think that when parents send their children off to such a place, they don't have love for their children. But in my case, I feel like this was the best decision that was made at this particular time. So I was transferred from there to Marlin. And there were financial difficulties that proceed. And due to my grandmother all these came to be solved. I didn't say in the beginning, but my grandparents on my mother's side was Mr. and Mrs. Coker Wise and Liz Coker. And grandparents on my father's side was Chili Coker and Ellen Thompson Fish. And as I said before Lizzie Coker was my grandmother made all those arrangements possible which due to my financial situation, paid all my expenses during each month, plus my groceries and other accessories that I needed. Expenses included approximately \$100 a month. And I feel like I owe a great deal to her. She has contributed a lot to me in this way. And I look back and I can see where that without her help, I possibly couldn't be able to do what I have done and what I'm doing this day. At this particular time, when I contracted polio, Blue Cross was available,