

raise these boys up. I just lived on a farm. Had our own chickens, our own milk cows, hogs. We used to kill hogs all the time. Luke was, Luke, he was roasting some kidneys in a fire place while we was killing hogs. Took it out and eat, eating that kidney. He put a coal in his mouth and he danced around there awhile. (Laughter) We used to just live on a farm. No Clyde Beaver's wife was a sister to Mary, my step-mother. Every fourth Sunday, a big, fourth Sunday Clyde Beaver and his family used to come over every fourth Sunday. They'd come over Saturday and stay till Monday. Then they'd go back. Just like it was their own church. They didn't belong there. But, I guess, on account of my father's wife and Barney's wife were sisters. They were great friends. After father got sick why Barney--they was there several days. They was waiting on him, but it was coming near Christmas. Just a few days before Christmas. They was going to have service at Okfuskee Church and I think that's where Barney and them went. I don't know whether they belonged to Okfuskee Church or which it was. I don't know which one they belonged to. But they used to go to Okfuskee mostly. They was at that Christmas service and my father died right on Christmas day. Just about 1:30 or 2:00 in the afternoon. They was going to have service at Big Arbor. But on account of his sickness was worse, all of the people come down there to the house instead of the church house. So few could get in the house. They was having service in the house. And after the service was over, it happened to be a pretty warm day even if it was Christmas in the winter. Warm day, and they had a long table on the outside. They had people was eating out there. It must have been long about 1:30 or 2:00. Service was over, of course, dismissed. Most of the people had already eaten. Just us kids mostly was eating. Eating, and oh, they all--they all went to crying on the inside of the house. Someone come out and said, well the old man died. Susie Tong she was sitting at the end of the table. She said, oh our pastor's gone, I wonder what will become of us now. That the words she used, Susie Tong. That's was right on Christmas day. Now, they hadn't no one went from that house to Okfuskee to tell the news. They had an all night sit-up Christmas night and next day they