

Nellie Roberts was born and raised in the Sycamore Springs district Southeast of Jay. She has spent all of her life in this part of Delaware County. Her father was from the Wilson family and her mother came from the Goodin family, and both were full blood Cherokees.

Mrs. Roberts first attended school in the old log building that was known as Sycamore Springs School. Then from 1913 to 1919 she attended the Wyandotte Indian School in Ottawa County. Other than her school years away from home she has spent the rest of her life in the Jay area. She is one of the few people living now that recalls many of the old places, Indian families, and some of the events that belong to her homeland.

She recalls old man Ned Tincup who lived on upper Spavinaw Creek long ago. Ned was the uncle of the well know Ben Tincup of baseball fame. Ben Tincup retired from the sports world many years ago and now lives on his little farm in Rogers County. To her knowledge none of the Tincup family remain in Delaware County but she does know that their family cemetery still exists down in the Piney country. Peter Nicks was another of the prominent Indians of long ago and he is buried in the old Tincup cemetery.

Of other Indians who were early settlers to that country were Pigeon Wilson who lived on Upper Spavinaw, Jim Oldfield whose home was west of Piney Church, Willie Beamer who had a cabin up north of what is now Colcord, and Sam Goodin who lived in what is now the Taylor community. Down in the Cloud Creek country most of the people there are Indians and from early days they have maintained a close knit community organization. Some of the families that were of that district included the Runabouts, Wards, Wilsons, Cornshuckers, Foremans, Davis, Birdchopper,