

Honored Elder – Mari Roussin



Hello,

I am Mari Belle Roussin.

I was born May 24,1926 in St. Francis County, Mo..I am a descendant of John Brawley who brought the first Cherokee Tribe to the Ozarks in 1710 with his wife(who was daughter of Chief Doublehead of the Chickamauga Cherokee). I was raised in a little mining town in Flatriver, Mo. I spent the next 9 ½ years in Oakridge, Tenn, with husband James Obannon (his grandmother was Cherokee and grandfather was English).

I had one son with James Obannon named James Franklin Obannon III .I later was divorced and my son and I returned to Flatriver, Mo. Six years later I was married to Gilbert Roussin and moved with him to St. Louis County, Mo. He passed away in 1973. In 1975 moved to the Kansas City area so 18 year old son could go to college at MIT (now known as Devry U.). I worked in nursing in K.C. Until 1992 and retired. My son , Jimmy , died May 17, 1987.

I came out of retirement and worked for Kansas City Indian Center on Admiral Blvd. I have been a long time member of ICMN. I have helped select, groom, and make regalia for princesses for many years.

I wish to than ICMN for honoring me and our long and happy relationship.

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