

Nanye'hi



Nanye'hi, also known as Nancy Ward, was born in 1738 in a Cherokee village on the Little Tennessee River¹. In 1755, she fought alongside her husband in the battle of Taliwa, a raid against the Creeks. When her husband was killed in that battle, she rallied Cherokee warriors to fight harder and win the battle¹. Due to her valor, the clan renamed her Ghighau or “Beloved Woman”². She held a lot of power within the tribe, sitting on the Women’s Council and Council of Chiefs, and it was believed that the Great Spirit frequently spoke through her². She also prepared and blessed warriors in sacred rituals to prepare them for war, and due to this was sometimes known as Agi-ga-u-e, or “War Woman”². She eventually became respected by colonizers as well². She had great influence within the tribe and colonizers and was active in peace negotiations between the tribe and colonizers². She is best known for her pleas for peace².

Citations

1. *Encyclopædia Britannica, inc.* (2023, January

1). Nancy Ward. *Encyclopædia Britannica*. Retrieved February 21, 2023, from <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Nancy-Ward>

2. Smith, D. R. (2018, March 1). Ward, nancy. *Tennessee Encyclopedia*. Retrieved February 21, 2023, from <https://tennesseeencyclopedia.net/entries/nancy-ward/>