Mary Golda Ross
Scientist of the Month

- First known Native American woman to become a certified, professional engineer
- Born near Tahlequah, the capital of Cherokee Nation
- Helped design fighter jets in World War II
- Worked as an engineer at Lockheed, where much of her work involved preliminary concepts for space travel

“To function efficiently in today’s world, you need math. The world is so technical, if you plan to work in it, a math background will let you go farther and faster.”

“Math was more fun than anything else. It was always a game to me.”

“Perfection can be achieved by no one, because perfection is achieved from faults—yet faults tear away the perfection in you.”

Learn more at:
- Mary Golda Ross: Aerospace Engineer, Educator, and Advocate | National Air and Space Museum (si.edu)
- Mary G. Ross (U.S. National Park Service) (nps.gov)
- Mary Ross: A Hidden Figure | NASA

Quotes courtesy of TODAYINSCI