

INFORMANT: JOE ATTOCKNIE, COMANCHE
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LEARNED MUCH ABOUT FAMILY AND COMANCHES FROM FATHER AND GRANDMOTHER

This is one of my main or most believed in topics when you start talking about Comanches. They are my favorite subject. I'm, I was fortunate in learning by living with and being raised by my Grandmother Quer-her-bitty (?). Which was--

(How do you spell her name?)

She was, Quer-Her-Bitty (?) means "arise to capture". She was a Comanche from the Rooteater band of Comanches. And then I learned more later after she passed away from my father, Elbert Attocknie, who was a Rooteater Comanche from both sides, his father and mother, which makes me at least a half Rooteater, more than a half Rooteater Comanche and I was give the name Joseph Attocknie from my father. I was baptized as Joseph Attocknie and ah, also given the name from my father, Pah-e Tuh-uh-yah. Pah-e is the water and Tuh-uh-yah is a fear or afraid of water which is the name he gave me, naming me after a Rooteater Comanche of still further back. Pah-e Tuh-uh-yah was a Comanche of about the age of one of our great-great-grandfather Ten Bears. Ten Bears was the father of, was the grandfather of Quer-Her-Bitty who raised me. She raised me about the way Ten Bears raised her because she had lost her mother when she was still an infant. And Ten Bears, the grandfather, their mother's father raised both her and her brother, older brother Chebers. Who you will find in reference to him in various books on Comanches. So I have always felt very fortunate in that I was in the position where I could learn first hand, many things and many practices of the Comanches and also much of their music cause my grandmother was very musical. She loved to sing. And almost every song that she sang, there was usually a little comment, a little story along with it. Cause when