

LIFE HISTORY DATA:

My name is Reena Cook and I live here in Kingfisher. I was born in Watonga. My parents didn't know a word of English, and I started going to school at Concho, they call it Cheyenne School. When I was about nine years old they refused to give rations to my folks because I didn't go to school, like I was supposed to go to school..at the age of six or seven. They issued rations to the Cheyenne tribe and when the child didn't go to school, the old folks, the parents didn't get no rations. When all of us had to go to school the parents, they get rations in that way. They used to get so much a head of eight dollars, every few months and when we don't go to school like we suppose to, we don't get that money. And I didn't no a word of English when I started to school. I was learning that English talk the hard way. Now at this time, when I was a young lady, my sister died. She had two little children. She left her two little children with her husband and my folks and my brother had to give me away to him, to marry him to take the place of my sister, to be a mother to these little girls and a little boy. He gave some money and some things to my brother, so that I could marry him. When I was a very young girl, and they said it was a good thing that I did because my folks was proud of me and my relatives was glad that I had taken the place of my sister to be a mother to these.. her boy and her girl.

(About how old were you?)

I was about fifteen years old. And this man I married was way up in... around 30, 35, somewhere around there...40.

MARRYING HUSBAND OF DECEASED HISTER:

(What was his name?)

John Tassel.