

NATIVE AMERICAN OBITUARY COLLECTION OVERVIEW

Lawton Public Library

The Family History Room maintains a large collection of Native American obituary clippings. Tribes represented are primarily Comanche, Kiowa, Apache, and Fort Sill Apache, with some Caddo/Wichita and Cheyenne/Arapaho. Most of the obituaries appeared in the Lawton Constitution, Anadarko Daily News, Walters Herald and the Carnegie Herald.

The seed for the collection is a two part, four volume set, *Comanche, Kiowa, and Apache Obituaries*, by Sam DeVenney (GENE 78.O45 D38). Many Comanche obituaries were provided by Barbara Goodin and Faye Riddles Washburn. Library staff also added additional clippings. Please see the Genealogy Librarian to see the loose clippings.

Mr. DeVenney included a handful of obituaries for "associated whites," such as the Rev. Deyo, Arthur Lawrence, and some non-native spouses.

Copies of obituaries are available for \$5.00, payable in advance. Mail request, with fee to: SWOGS, P.O. Box 148, Lawton, OK 73502.

The index includes name (including maiden name if known), age, obituary or death date, newspaper, part and page number from Mr. DeVenney's book (if blank, this is a loose clipping), residence, tribe, and pertinent comments. Some maiden names and tribal affiliations came from obituary annotations.

Appreciation and thanks go to Sam DeVenney, Faye Riddles Washburn, Barbara and Ken Goodin, Leonard and Eva Riddles, Wilbur Parker, and Linda Garrison for their assistance, advice and proof-reading. Without their help, this collection would not be available for use.