

Mary Maude "Grandma" Supernaw
Interviewed by: Bill Supernaw, Jr.
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Transcribed by: Rise Supernaw Proctor and Billy Supernaw Proctor
Subject: Appointing Chiefs & Name Giving

Appointing Chiefs & Name Giving

Bill: You said while ago, now, this is Grandma Supernaw, you s Grandma, didn't you say while ago that you didn't want any more Chiefs?

Grandma: Huh uh! I don't want no Chief, anybody.

Bill: You don't want nobody to be Chief no more?

Grandma: No!

Bill: When your daddy (Tall Chief-Louis Angel) died that's all you wanted, huh?

Grandma: Uh huh!

Bill: It was left up to you?

Grandma: Yeah, just up to me, so, when I'm gone, I'm gone, that's all!

Bill: And you don't want nobody to give names to anybody?

Grandma: Huh uh! No! Nobody ain't going to give a name neither. That's all there is to it, that's the end of it, I guess.

Bill: Now, while ago you said that you, you appointed Irvin (Wilson) for last one and Sidney, you know, Second Chief.

Grandma: Um-huh!

Bill: And that's all you are going to appoint?

Grandma: Yeah! Irvin is Second Chief and, and he died.

Bill: Yeah.

Grandma: And Victor first and Irvin Second Chief and he died. So, I don't know who, I'm afraid to, I'm afraid to appoint, appoint somebody Chief. I'm afraid he won't live long, that's reason. I don't want to give a, I don't want no Chief. And like you say, McKibben want Chief. If he want, uh, if he don't want live long, he can have Chief, want, want to, but then, that's all I can say. People what they want Chief, find out they don't. Quapaw all going be dying, dying anyhow, so, all mixed up after while, all kind of Indians and, White and, different kind of Indian, so, can't be Chief, anybody, that's all I can say.

We lost everything when, uh, when my father died, so, I'm here giving name too, but nobody ain't going to give a name, so, that's all there is to it, I can say. So, that be end of it. That's all.

Bill: So anybody that's, wants to be Chief, there's something happen to them, huh?

Grandma: Huh?

Bill: Anybody that wants to be Chief, there's something going to happen to them, is that what you said a while ago?

Grandma: Yeah! See, I don't know how long live, how long live, Irvin, when he was Chief? You know?

Bill: Oh, well, he lived quite awhile. Well, they wouldn't listen to Irvin, See, but he was a good one.

Grandma: Yeah, sure! Sure with Mr. Irvin.

Bill: But he had a heart attack, like I did, see.

Grandma: Um huh. I don't know, anybody that wants to be Chief, explain to them first to see if he be Chief, want to, could go ahead Chief, that's all I can say. But Irvin got all records, he had, like that, you know, and he thought maybe he be chief too, I guess. If he ain't afraid to die, he can go ahead, that's all I can say.