Edward abbey



of the of the Edward Abbey Edward Abbey is considered a very renowned and essayist in nature writing. He was born in Pennsylvania on January 29, 1927 and this was where he attained his early education. He left his home at the age of seventeen and travelled across vast desert lands to explore the American Southwest. The trip made everlasting memories on his mind, bringing him very close to nature. At the age of eighteen, he joined military and served for two years in Italy. Abbey attended University of Mexico in 1951, where he did B. A. in Philosophy and English and also completed his masters in Philosophy. Abbey's writings are inspired from his life experiences. Desert Solitaire, published in 1968, which is considered one of the best narratives in nature writing, tells about Abbey's experience in Utah where he worked as a ranger. Abbey's writings are not only engaging and entertaining but they also serve as a wake-up call for the conservation of nature. Abbey's long list of essays and books include Jonathon Troy, Fire on the Mountain, Black sun but the book that earned him the greatest acclaim was 'The Monkey Wrench Gang' which was published in 1975. The book coined the word 'monkey wrenching' which meant to sabotage for the defense of environment. It is also speculated that the book inspired the formation of the militant group 'Earth First' (Cahalan). His orneriness over environmental issues made Abbey a hero among the activists of his time. This protagonist of radical environmentalism died at the age of 62 and was buried in the state of Arizona. Works Cited Cahalan, James M. Edward Abbey: A Life . University of Arizona Press; , 2001. Print