



Norman H. Anderson

March 17, 1933 - January 13, 2018

Norman Anderson died peacefully at home with his wife, Margaret, by his side on January 13, 2018.

Norm was born to Herbert and Kathleen Anderson in Edam, Saskatchewan, Canada, on St. Patrick's Day, 1933. Along with his brother Aaron and sisters, Elaine and Sallie, he spent his early childhood in a log cabin. Norm's grandchildren loved to hear how he rode a horse to the one-room school. After the depression years, when Norm was eight, his family lost their farm, piled all their belongings, including the four children, into their pick-up truck and headed to British Columbia, where the family lived on a small dairy farm near Langley. Norm's younger brother, Albert, was born two years later. After graduating from Langley High School, Norm attended the University of British Columbia, where he enrolled in agriculture. A summer job at Summerland Experiment Station in the Okanagan Valley introduced him to entomology, which became his major at university and a life-long passion. It was in Summerland that he met his future wife, Margaret. They were married in September 1956, and came down to Oregon State University, where Norm completed his Master's Degree. In 1962, after receiving his Ph.D. from Imperial College, London, and becoming the father of twins, Norm returned to OSU as a faculty member in the Entomology Department. His main interest was aquatic insects, especially caddis flies.

Studying the insects that live in Oregon streams and rivers was a great occupation for the father of four children. The family spent happy weekends

camping and bug-hunting. Later he would share his love of small stream creatures with his nine grandchildren. Norm had a close relationship with many of his graduate students, several of whom came by to visit during these last weeks. He enjoyed and valued his association with the Stream Team and with other colleagues. One of his many projects over the years was monitoring the return of insect life to the streams on Mt. St. Helen's after the 1980 eruption. More recently, after his retirement, he studied the insects that inhabit the temporary streams that run through their property here in North Corvallis and he continued to go up to his office almost every day. He also kept bees for over 40 years that produced what was proclaimed to be the best honey anywhere.

Norm is survived by his four children, Richard Anderson (Nancy Bocek), Judith Bender (Bob), Susan Frisby (Barry) and Karen Stephenson, and also by his nine grandchildren, Casey and Jena Anderson, Alex and Chris Bender, Cameron, Connor, and Sarah Frisby, and Fiona and Gillian Stephenson. And by Margaret, his loving wife of 61 years.

A Memorial Service is planned at First Presbyterian Church on Friday, January 26, at 11:00 a.m. Additional parking is available at First Baptist Church. Instead of flowers, you may make donations to Greenbelt Land Trust, Benton County Historical Society, or First Presbyterian Church. www.demosdurdan.com

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JAN **26**. 11:00 AM (PT)

First Presbyterian Church
114 SE 8th Street
Corvallis, OR 97333

Tribute Wall

WF

“ Norm Anderson was one of the seminal influences on my life. When I was a freshman Entomology major in the mid 1970’s, he gave me a desk in his lab and a wonderful summer job, working with him on the effect of DDT spraying on aquatic insects in NE Oregon. We drove the back roads there and back from Corvallis, stopping at every stream and hillside trickle so that he could search for his beloved Caddis Flies, and on that trip he was delighted to discover a new species. He was so steady, supportive, and interested in everything, including my own first steps in a career in science. He had that wonderful twinkle in his eye, a discerning scientific mind, and an enormous curiosity. Plus a warm, kindness to all. We had many wonderful conversations in his office as he puffed on his ever-present pipe. I transferred to Reed after just two years, but 45 years into my academic career I think about Norm and my time in the Entomology Department as some of the happiest of my life. You never know at the time which people will resonate throughout your later years. Norm Anderson was a huge influence on my development as a person and scientist, and for that I’ll be forever grateful. My belated condolences to Margaret and their kids.

William Frost - July 16, 2020 at 09:19 AM

JF

“ I am so sorry to hear of Norm's passing. I have many precious memories of being a student in his aquatic entomology class, a tech picking bugs and managing the *Clistoronia* drippery in his lab, and a mentee listening intently to Norm's advice on graduate school directions (often while he munched peanut butter sandwiches and bananas!). He always had time to share a funny story or respond to my incessant questions. Probably more than anyone, Norm influenced my decision to pursue a career in benthic science, for we both loved aquatics, and I will forever cherish his memory.

Jack Feminella

Jack Feminella - February 01, 2018 at 02:59 PM

CK

“ Norm was my graduate school advisor, employer, and friend for over 50 years. I will miss our visits at OSU, discussion of aquatic insects, and Beaver sports. Our visits often included lunch, a walk on the paths at Anderson Acres to view his well-studied seasonal streams and a peek at his bee hives. In many ways, Norm's story is the story of aquatic entomology in the state of Oregon. His impact is magnified by the work of the students he mentored through the years.

My very best wishes to Margaret and the wonderful Anderson family. Along with mourning the loss, I will celebrate a life well lived. What a journey Norm had from a log cabin on the Saskatchewan prairie to Imperial College in London and Oregon State University for a lifetime of teaching and research.

Cary Kerst

Cary Kerst - January 25, 2018 at 06:43 PM

AM

“ Dear Margaret, we have many happy memories of all the visits you and Norman made with your family to see us in the UK and of our visits to you in Corvallis. Thinking of you all at this sad time. With love from Ann, Louise, Hugo and Joe and Danny.

Ann Middleditch - January 25, 2018 at 10:46 AM

PH

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Peter Harper - January 24, 2018 at 05:03 AM

EE

“ Dr. Anderson was my undergraduate advisor in entomology at Oregon State. I could always count on a visit with him to brighten my day. Loved the smell of his pipe and his warm smile; and admired his achievements in science. I did not end up graduating, but it had nothing to do with Norm. He was always patient and understanding and supportive. His family and friends and students have my sincerest condolences on his passing. He will never be forgotten, I can assure you. Irony of ironies, he passed on my birthday.

Eric R. Eaton - January 22, 2018 at 02:58 PM

DM

“ Dear Margaret and family. I am sorry for your loss and wish you all the best in the coming days in his absence. We all have much to be thankful for in having known Norm. He was such a cheerful person who provided his students with a real appreciation for aquatic insects and the personal pleasures in science. He was a great asset to the Stream Team. I will always have many fond memories of talks with him, working in his lab, and his great humor.

Dale McCullough - January 21, 2018 at 09:40 PM

RB

“ Dear Margaret and family. Elaine and I have you all in our thoughts and prayers. We have many fond memories of our associations as members of the Entomology faculty at Oregon State. Norm and I shared many good times and our families have fond memories of our good times. Ralph and Elaine Berry

ralph and elaine berry - January 20, 2018 at 01:25 PM

KK

“ Dear Margaret and a Karen,
Again I would like to tell you that I am thinking of you and the rest of your family. Thank you again for the homemade honey! Norm always had fascinating things to say about insects.
Kristi Komar

Kristin Komar - January 19, 2018 at 09:44 PM

AM

“ We will greatly miss our friend and colleague Norm---especially his genial smile, the twinkle in his eye, and his helpfulness with all things great and small in the world of aquatic insects. Our thoughts are with Margaret and all his family. Alison and Andy Moldenke



Alison and Andy Moldenke - January 19, 2018 at 05:33 PM

AM

Alison and Andy

Alison and Andy Moldenke - January 19, 2018 at 05:33 PM

CH

“ My thoughts are with you all. I am so disappointed that I did not have the opportunity to visit with Norm much over the last several years. Please know that Norm was a great mentor to me and other graduate students, and I have very fond memories of the many hours we spent talking about streams and the marvelous aquatic insects that inhabit them. Norm had an outsized effect on many of us, and he has left an extraordinary legacy that his students will pass on to future generations.

Chuck Hawkins

Chuck Hawkins - January 19, 2018 at 12:27 PM

NA

“ I am sending along my thoughts and prayers to Margaret and all the family. I have very fond memories of Norm beginning with my days with the Stream Team at Oregon State (early 80s), and through the present. He had such a tremendous impact on his field, and on all the students who were lucky enough to work with him.

Nick Aumen

Nick Aumen - January 18, 2018 at 01:27 PM

DL

“ Thinking of you all at this difficult time. So many memories of his enthusiastic interest in nature and his gentle kindness. May you be comforted by memories of your time together and the love of family and friends.

With love, Debbie Metzger Lee

Debra Lee - January 15, 2018 at 08:50 PM