



David Ray Anderson

December 13, 1942 - February 1, 2020

David R. Anderson, Fort Collins, was born on December 13, 1942 in Norton, KS, and passed away on February 1, 2020 after a two-year battle with leukemia and Parkinson's disease. He was raised in Denver by his parents, Charles R. and Leta M. Anderson, and attended Colorado State University where he received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Wildlife Biology. He earned his PhD at the University of Maryland where he specialized in theoretical ecology. During his career he spent nine years at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center in Maryland and nine years as leader of the Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit and Professor in the Wildlife Science Department at Utah State University. He returned to Colorado State University in 1984 where he was professor in the Department of Fishery and Wildlife Biology and Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Unit Leader for the Fish and Wildlife Service and U.S. Geological Survey until his retirement in 2003. He was promoted to Senior Scientist by the U.S. Geological Survey, the highest organizational honor that an agency scientist can attain. He remained active in the Department of Fishery and Wildlife Biology after his retirement. He received over a dozen professional awards, including the Aldo Leopold Memorial Award, Special Achievement awards from The Wildlife Society and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and four "Publication of the Year" awards from The Wildlife Society. His numerous publications have been cited >100,000 times by other scientists. He was instrumental in transforming the discipline of wildlife ecology and management with his important contributions

to statistical inference, decision making, and the very conduct of science. He was an exceptional mentor, and his former students now populate universities, government agencies, and nongovernmental conservation organizations worldwide. David was an adventure traveler who liked to visit out-of-the-way places, including Madagascar, Galapagos Islands, the Amazon, the Taj Mahal in India, Altun Ha in Belize, Chichen Itza in the Yucatan, Iran (to view wild Ibex), the Tia Sophia in Istanbul, Kenya (wildlife viewing), Masada in Israel, Giza in Egypt, New Zealand, China (to see Qin Dynasty terra cotta warriors), New Guinea (to view Aboriginal ceremonies), and the Northern Territories in Australia. In addition to his academic interests David was a car enthusiast. He was an active member of the British Motoring Club in Northern Colorado and a regular attendee at the informal weekly "Car Lunch" in Fort Collins. At various times he owned two E-Type Jaguars and his prized 1979 LP400S Lamborghini Countach. David is survived by his daughters, Tamara and Adrienne of Louisville and Denver, his brother Duane and his wife Carol, and their daughter, Diana, of Evergreen, and by his many friends and professional colleagues. It is hard to predict what Covid-19 might be like at the end of June, therefore we have decided to cancel the Celebration of his Life for the foreseeable future. More information about David's career and interests is available online at <https://sites.warnercnr.colostate.edu/anderson/>.

Tribute Wall

JN

“ For nearly half a century David Anderson led a revolution in the way that wildlife professionals conduct science and management. His innovative contributions were simply enormous. He was also a really good guy and lots of fun to be around. Quick memory from a parking lot outside an English pub in 1997 (see EURING 1997 photo): David walked over to a Lotus automobile, studied it for a few seconds, shook his head and said "piece of junk". Spoken like a true Lamborghini owner. When speaking with David, you never had to wonder what he was really thinking. His passing is such a loss - he'll be greatly missed.

Jim Nichols - February 22, 2020 at 05:49 PM

JN

“ 2 files added to the album Photo Memories of David



Jim Nichols - February 22, 2020 at 05:08 PM

TS

“ 1 file added to the album Photo Memories of David



Tom Sheng - February 07, 2020 at 03:31 PM

RK

“ David was a wonderful neighbor; the first to welcome me in 2008. I will miss his trick or treat in full costume each Halloween. He was always willing to share stories about his travels over a glass of wine. He will be missed!

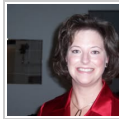
Robin Karst

robin karst - February 06, 2020 at 03:04 PM



“ I never met anyone so adventurous to experience the world in a way few do. I will miss sharing David's experiences and photos.

Marge Yoder - February 05, 2020 at 09:45 PM



I just found this list of places that Dad travelled, and you helped him get to many of them Marge: Andorra, Argentina, Aruba, Australia, Belize, Brazil, British Virgin Islands, Canada (all provinces and territories except PEI and Newfoundland), Caymans, Croatia, Gibraltar, China, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Finland, France, French Polynesia, Germany, Holy See (Vatican), India, Iran, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mexico, Monte Carlo, Morocco, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Russia, St. Lucia, San Marino, St. Maarten, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tanzania, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States (all 50), Uruguay, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

Tamara Anderson - February 09, 2020 at 03:56 PM

TS

“ 1 file added to the album Photo Memories of David



Tom Sheng - February 05, 2020 at 02:09 PM

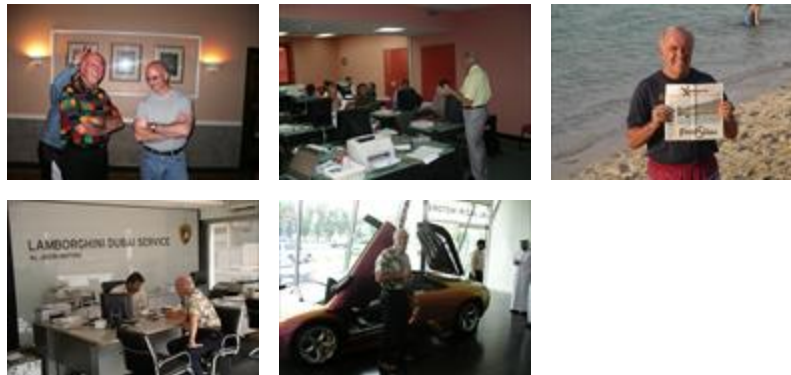
MB

“ Quite sad. Just saw him the other day at the doctor's office. I had no idea he was so unwell. Nice guy and I'm sure all of us will miss him.

Mark Baker - February 05, 2020 at 12:06 PM

GW

“ 13 files added to the album Photo Memories of David



GARY C WHITE - February 04, 2020 at 11:04 AM

LT

“ David was a huge figure in my academic field of statistical ecology. He was very kind to me when I was just starting my career 25 years ago - I expect he's personally helped hundreds, maybe thousands of other biologists, conservation scientists, managers and statisticians. The thing I remember most about David was his commitment to getting things right, upholding the highest standards of academic rigor, while at the same time having great fun. If there's a heaven, then David has certainly visited the Lamborghini store and picked himself up a really nice car! Thank-you, David, for all your contributions, we'll miss you.

Len Thomas, University of St Andrews

Len Thomas - February 04, 2020 at 06:38 AM



Kenneth
Wilson

“ 2 files added to the album *Photo Memories of David*



Kenneth Wilson - February 03, 2020 at 09:31 PM



“ *Ana and I met David at the first time in Brazil, when he was there with Paul Doherty to teach the model selection theories. After, we went to Fort Collins for part of our PhD. David was always very nice with us. A wonderful guy, a real gentleman, and an excellent scientist. An example for us.*

Thank you David for everything and to the family, our condolences.

Rodrigo Massara and Ana Paschoal

Rodrigo Massara - February 03, 2020 at 06:36 PM