



## Roger Jones

April 12, 1936 - June 6, 2020

ROGER JONES 1936 - 2020 Rappahannock County resident Roger Jones, 84, passed away suddenly on Saturday, June 6, 2020 at his residence near Sperryville, VA. Roger grew up in Truman, a small town in southern Minnesota. He attended St. Olaf College and graduated from the University of Minnesota with a major in psychology. Roger was a dedicated member of the U of MN marching band, playing his beloved trombone, and his love of music continued throughout his life. Following graduation Roger joined the US Army and studied German at the Army Language School in Monterey CA; he spent the rest of his military career with the Counter Intelligence Corps in Germany. He returned to the US and joined the CIA, working for a few years both in Washington DC and New York City. Roger then decided to start his own business called "College Graduates Club," a social club offering gatherings to single people in the Washington DC area, Part of that business eventually transformed into another venture, "Ski Trips Unlimited," which offered group trips to ski destinations in Canada, Colorado, New England but primarily to Seven Springs Resort in western Pennsylvania. Roger retired from the ski trip business in 2000, and began to spend more time on his property in Rappahannock County VA as well as on a ranch in Montana, developing the properties into nature preserves. Most of Roger's activities revolved around his love of raptors such as kestrels, hawks, eagles and owls. For more than 40 years he was a Master Bander; in that capacity he was authorized by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service to band and record data for thousands of birds in Virginia, Minnesota, and Montana. In doing so he contributed much information, measuring the migration and population patterns of raptors. Roger installed and regularly maintained bird boxes for American Kestrels, Eastern Bluebirds, and Barn Owls across the country in Rappahannock County, southern Minnesota, and Montana. Roger also enjoyed travel and managed to see all seven continents, visiting nature sanctuaries all over the world. Roger was a lover of animals and his home town, Truman, in Minnesota. He was a keeper of statistics, a giver of parties, a player of games, a collector of friends, a taker of risks; he loved to organize competitions, plan wildlife adventure trips, place bets, orchestrate surprises, make and sustain lifelong connections. Two of his favorite songs were "Precious Friend" by Pete Seeger and "Take It to the Limit" by the Eagles. He will be missed by many.

Roger is survived by his daughter Paula (Faisal Albanna) of Haymarket, VA, and son Mitchell of Falls Church, VA. He will be missed by his loving companion Janine Moseley, his sister Margaret (Don) Schumsky of Seattle WA, his brothers Bruce (Susan) Jones of Washington VA and Tom (Glenice) Jones of Minneapolis MN. He also leaves two grandchildren, Ghazi and Gabriella Albanna and his former wife, Doris Jones of Woodville VA, along with many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Arlo "Casey" Jones and Evelyn Sund Jones. A small private family gathering to remember Roger will be held later in June at his home in Rappahannock County.

Contributions in memory of Roger may be made to: Cornell Lab of Ornithology 159 Sapsucker Woods Ithaca, NY. 14850 or Virginia Society of Ornithology P O Box 5994 Williamsburg, VA. 23188.

Found and Sons Funeral Chapel of Culpeper is serving the family.

# Comments

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“ I wondered why I quit receiving emails and raptor photos from Roger. This evening I'm reading a pamphlet from Montana Nature Conservancy and I'm saddened to hear of his passing. We shared some good times years back and I recall his pride in showing his beautiful property above Piskun Reservoir in central Montana. RIP Roger, you did well for our land and wildlife in Montana.

Earl Sheldon  
Great Falls, MT

Earl Sheldon - November 30 at 10:02 PM

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“ Not having received one of Roger's bird, bear and deer-filled emails in many months, I worried for his health last year. Finally today, sadly, I located his obituary. What an accomplished and interesting gentleman! I am saddened today but so pleased and blessed to have know Roger. I extend condolences, though belated, to his family and the many friends who miss him.

Gloria Scott, San Antonio, Texas - May 24 at 12:46 PM

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“ Raymond Kranz is following this tribute.

Raymond Kranz - December 19, 2020 at 11:59 AM

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“ Just found out about my great friend Roger Jones. He was a mentor to me since 1976.

He loved the American Kestrel as much as I do. We were trapping raptors on the Mountain, Me in PA and him in VA. I even talked him into Netting Saw Whet owls migrating south in the fall. I'm sitting her typing this with a deep sadness as every Xmas I would get his Picture card in the mail of his travels during the year. I have everyone that he has sent to me.

I do think he banded a few Kestrels before he passed.

Thanking Roger for everything he instilled in me for my love of raptors, esp when I became a Master Bander in 1982.

His side kick that I met though the years will see this and I hope he will call me.

Paul H Karner

126 Penna Avenue

Bangor, Pa. 18013

6105543947

paul h karner - November 30, 2020 at 09:30 AM

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“ Condolences to the family. Rest in peach my friend.

bjb - July 19, 2020 at 05:54 PM

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“ My luck to have Roger as a friend. One of a kind and I will miss him!  
Charlie Besley

Charlie - July 10, 2020 at 12:32 PM

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“ So sorry to hear about Roger's passing. Our condolences to his family. I am the rancher in Montana that sold him his ranch in Teton County, Montana. If needed, I would be more than happy to assist you with the ranch .

Robert 'Short' Stephens, Jr.

PO Box 274

Augusta, MT 59410

406-590-7267

Robert E. Stephens, Jr. - June 18, 2020 at 02:34 PM