Obituary



Roger J. Blain

Roger J. Blain, 70, passed away at his home in Sisters, Oregon, on February 26. He was born in Warrenton, Virginia, and developed a love of nature during the summers he spent on his grandparents' farm.

Following his service in the U.S. Army, he began a career in the National Park Service. As a law-enforcement ranger he was involved in emergency medical services, search and rescue, and naturalist activities. He enjoyed working in Kings Canyon and Sequoia, Everglades, Acadia, and Olympic national parks.

Roger's commitment to and compassion for wildlife and the people who come to enjoy America's national parks resulted in an outstanding achievement award from the Daughters of the American Revolution National Conservation Committee. In 1999, he retired as the Quinault District Ranger at Olympic National Park.

A Master Falconer, Roger envisioned and created the nonprofit Raptor Recovery Center in Otter Creek, Maine, where injured birds of prey were rehabilitated.

In America's rain forest in Lake Quinault he started Rain Forest Guide Services to provide flyfishing instruction, guided

fishing and naturalist tours. He touched many lives and left people with wonderful memories.

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As interpretation and activities director he developed the lake and rain-forest tours for Lake Quinault Lodge, as well as creating and organizing festivals and events. He became a sanctioned trainer of certified interpretive guides.

Recently, Roger was elated to publish his book, "Why Salmon Cry," as part of his legacy. His greatest wish for his book was that children would grow up with the commitment to saving our wild salmon.

He was inquisitive and embraced life and all it has to offer. As a certified Master Gardener, Roger loved landscaping. His other interests included photography, kayaking, canoeing, cross-country skiing, camping, llama packing and international travel.

He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Leslie, his brother Ron of Texas, sister Vickie of Florida, as well as his companion animal family. His kind, compassionate and gentle spirit will be greatly missed.

Plans are being made for a celebration of life. In lieu of flowers please send remembrances to The High Desert Museum, Attn: Birds of Prey Center, 59800 S. Hwy. 97, Bend, OR, 97702.





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Meningococcal disease afflicts Oregon State student

By Bennett Hall

Corvallis Gazette-Times

CORVALLIS (AP) -After lying dormant for several months, the same strain of meningococcal disease that infected two Oregon State University students last fall has struck again on campus.

A third OSU student has been confirmed to have strain B of the disease, raising the situation to the level of an outbreak, health officials announced last Thursday.

The unidentified student,

who has been hospitalized at Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center since Feb. 23, is reported to be in good condition. Two other students were admitted to the Corvallis hospital in November and were later released after being treated for the disease.

The names of the students have not been released because of federal privacy restrictions. The disease can be spread through prolonged exposure to an infected person.

Meningococcal disease primarily afflicts young people.

