



## We Remember

### Michael Newton 1932-2022

Mike Newton, known worldwide as a legend in forestry, one of the oldest and most beloved teachers at Oregon State University and loved community member, was surrounded by family when he went to be with his Heavenly Father and wife, Jane, on August 30, 2022, after a prolonged battle with Alzheimer's Disease. He never lost his sweetness.

Mike was born October 24, 1932, in Hartford, Connecticut, to Margaret Young Newton and David Newton. Margaret was a Vassar graduate, and David a graduate of Princeton. Mike was the youngest of four siblings. The family purchased a 200-year-old farm in West Townsend, Vermont, where they proceeded to create a "Working Boys Prep School." Mike grew up on this farm, speaking French and

Latin, milking cows, and logging with horses. They cut ice chunks from Burbee's Pond for their icehouse where they stored their food for the year. He learned to work hard caring for animals and studying to meet the high expectations of his rigorous parents. The "boys" would cross country ski for miles to go to a square dance in the winter.

When Mike was 14, he went to Loomis Chaffe Prep School for Boys. He then went to University of Vermont at age 16, where he majored in dairy science with a minor in forestry and played on the UVM Football Team. He was "dirt poor" and did odd jobs including gun smithing to make ends meet for college. Mike's sister, Mary, had a roommate at nursing school named Jane. A romance developed and they were soon married on the farm.

Mike was in ROTC and joined the U.S. Army, where he served at Fort Riley, Kansas; son Dan was born during this time. Mike was then stationed in Germany on the Russian border. In the Army he was an explosive expert and also taught marksmanship on the range. He served two years and then arrived in Corvallis in 1957 to begin his master's degree in botany and forest ecology, graduating with a PhD. Mike worked two jobs to support his growing family, bought a house

for \$3500 and remodeled it while studying. His research was primarily in weed science and silviculture.

Mike became a professor at Oregon State University Department of Forestry where he taught and did research from 1959 until 1999 when he retired. He published over 400 papers on forest science, taught 67+ graduate students from 11 countries and will be remembered for his unconventional teaching techniques. He was known as a "dirt forester" who would spend more time in the field with hands on teaching, critical thinking, and humor. He was known for his strength and kindness, and being a wonderful mentor and a good father and husband. Mike also loved to dance. He loved working on his "stump ranch" in Eddyville rehabbing it into a beautiful forest. If you would listen... he would teach and make you think. Mike could fix anything with ingenuity. He will be greatly missed and remembered by all who knew him, with much love.

Memorials are welcome to Oregon Small Woodland Association or Community Outreach, Inc. of Corvallis.

### John A. Sandor 1926-2022

John Sandor was born in Buckley, Washington, on December 22, 1926, and passed away on August 23, 2022, at 95 years old in Sitka, Alaska. John was the youngest son of John and Mary Sandor, whose family of five sons and three daughters were all raised on a small ranch in Buckley.

Professionally, John was an Army medic in World War II; received a bachelor's in forestry degree from Washington State University in 1950 and a Master's of Public Administration degree from Harvard in 1959. Sandor's U.S. Forest Service career began in 1953 when he came to Alaska to work on forest surveys

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of the Tongass National Forest. He held a succession of other posts with the agency, including assistant regional forester in personnel management for the Southern Region in Atlanta from 1965 to 1968; assistant to Chief Ed Cliff in the Washington Office from 1968 to 1971; and deputy regional forester in the Eastern Region from 1971 to 1976. In 1976, Sandor returned to Juneau as the regional forester.

Sandor was active in forming the Society of American Foresters Alaska Chapter and Section and also active with the American Society for Public Administration. Sandor retired from the Forest Service in 1984. He was appointed commissioner of the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation during the Hickel administration from 1990 to 1994. During this time, he was also a member of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council.

It is challenging to list the many accolades, awards and distinctions John earned in his service to the community, state, and country. However, here are a few notable items to mention.

Sandor received the Alaska Federation of Native's 1994 Denali Award for efforts to preserve Native values. He also received the Alaska Public Health Association's Health Achievement Award for water-sanitation and clean air act initiatives. He also worked cooperatively with Canadian officials in British Columbia and Yukon Territory on conservation, water-sanitation, and hydro-electric issues.

In 2007, Sandor received the Gifford Pinchot Medal from the Society of American Foresters. This award recognizes an SAF member who has made outstanding contributions in the administration, practice, and professional development of North American Forestry. He is named as "Director Emeritus" of the First Things First-Alaska Foundation and was a founding member of Juneau's Gold Rush Days. He is also a past recipient of a "Lifetime Achievement Award" from the Juneau Chamber of Commerce.

Personally, John married to the love of his life, Lenore Barbat, on May 18, 1956, in Juneau. John was an avid fan of Mozart, travel, rare books and maps, and his two grandsons, Benjamin and Jacob Freiman. John thrived on staying active in the community and was often seen attending Rotary, Masonic Lodge, Miners, Chamber of Commerce. He was also an active member of the Douglas Community United Methodist Church. After residing in Juneau for 40 years, John moved to the Sitka Pioneer Home with his wife, Lee, in 2017.

The family would welcome donations in John's memory to the National Museum of Forest Service History or simply plant a tree in his name. *WF*



## Calendar of Events

**2022 PNW Forest Vegetation Management Conference**, Dec. 6-7, Holiday Inn Portland I-5S, Wilsonville, OR. Contact: WFCFA.

**Western Region COFE Seminar**, Jan. 12, 2023, Best Western Boulder Falls Inn, Lebanon, OR. Contact: WFCFA.

**Post-fire Landscapes: What can they tell us?**, Feb. 7-8, in-person and virtual, LaSells Stewart Center, Orvallis, OR. Contact: <https://tinyurl.com/yx485795>.

**2023 OR Chapter of The Wildlife Society Annual Meeting**, Feb. 22-24, Bend, OR. Contact: [ortws.org/events/annual-conference/](http://ortws.org/events/annual-conference/).

**85th Annual Oregon Logging Conference**, Feb. 23-25, Eugene, OR. Contact: [oregonloggingconference.com](http://oregonloggingconference.com).

**2023 Northwest Scientific Association Annual Meeting**, March 21-24, Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA. Contact: [www.northwestscience.org/](http://www.northwestscience.org/).

**International Mass Timber Conference**, March 27-29, Oregon Convention Center, Portland, OR. Contact: [masstimmerconference.com/](http://masstimmerconference.com/).

**2023 Washington State SAF Annual Meeting**, May 3-5, La Conner, WA. Hosted by North Puget Sound Chapter.

**2023 Oregon SAF Annual Meeting**, May 10-12, Hosted by Umpqua Chapter.

**2023 SAF National Convention**, Oct. 25-29, Sacramento, CA. Contact: [www.eforester.org/SAFConvention](http://www.eforester.org/SAFConvention).

## Contact Information

**WFCFA:** Western Forestry and Conservation Association, 4033 SW Canyon Rd., Portland, OR 97221, 503-226-4562, [richard@westernforestry.org](mailto:richard@westernforestry.org), [www.westernforestry.org](http://www.westernforestry.org).

Send calendar items to the editor at [wattsa@forestry.org](mailto:wattsa@forestry.org)

## Nominations for 2023 State Awards are Sought

With only two months remaining of 2022, it's time to begin thinking of next year's nominations for state society awards. The nomination period opens in January and will close March 15, 2023. The awardees will be recognized at the 2023 state society annual meetings.

Questions about nominating for Alaska SAF awards, contact Mitch Michaud ([mitchmichaudak@gmail.com](mailto:mitchmichaudak@gmail.com)).

Questions about nominating for Oregon SAF, contact cochairs Tim Keith ([tefc@gmail.com](mailto:tefc@gmail.com)) or Norm Michaels ([nmichaels2@yahoo.com](mailto:nmichaels2@yahoo.com)).

Questions about nominating for Washington State SAF, contact Bill Horn ([hornbill66@msn.com](mailto:hornbill66@msn.com)).



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