

Boyd E. Wickman passed away peacefully on 25 April 2017 at his home in Bend, Oregon. He was born in Martinez, California, on 17 June 1930 to Emil Ellis Wickman and Fern Belinda Hoy. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Julie Wickman-Leones, and stepson, John Christianson. He is survived by his daughter, Laura F. Wickman-Carle; brother, Robert Wickman; stepson, Jay Christianson; grandchildren, Kai, Wyatt, and Garrett Christianson and Ian and Emily Leones; and his long-time companion, Mimi Graves.

Boyd grew up in Orinda, California, where he spent countless hours outdoors. He was active in the Boy Scouts, where he became an Eagle Scout. His many hikes and camping trips to the high country influenced his chosen profession.

Boyd received a Bachelor of Science degree in entomology from the University of California in 1958. In 1966, he completed his Master of Science degree in forest entomology and later continued his post-graduate education with courses in forest ecology, silviculture, and entomology, again at the University of California, Berkeley.

After serving in the U.S. Army during the Korean conflict, he joined the U.S. Forest Service. In 1960, he was given time off by the Forest Service to be the assistant to the medical director at the Squaw Valley Winter Olympics.

Boyd had a distinguished career, primarily as a research entomologist for the USDA Forest Service's Pacific Northwest Research Station. Earlier in his career, he worked for several years at the Pacific Southwest Research Station in California. From 1967 to 1993, he was the Research Work Unit Project Leader in Corvallis and LaGrande, Oregon.

He was a highly respected scientist who published more than 100 professional papers during his career. As a man of high integrity, Boyd did not shy away from taking the appropriate stance on unpopular or controversial issues. In the 1960s, he spoke out against the use of DDT against forest defoliators when there was opposing pressure to use this insecticide on public lands. In the end,

Boyd's position was proven to be the appropriate one. Similarly, in the face of opposition, Boyd also advocated for the treatment of forest stands with legacy old-growth ponderosa pine trees, now departed from historic conditions, in order to protect them from depredation by the western pine beetle.

After retiring in 1993 from the U.S. Forest Service, Boyd spent many years as a consulting forest entomologist. In this capacity, Boyd applied his talents in a wide variety of settings, including expert testimony in several cases related to wildfires and forest insects and dendrochronological studies of multi-century defoliator outbreaks.

Boyd also served the Northwest Forestry Association for 10 years, where he participated in numerous field trips that addressed complex issues of forest ecology and presented lectures to congressional staffers on forest health. Additional specialized activities included serving in Alaska as a science advisor to the Kenai Peninsula Borough Spruce Beetle Task Force, managing the historic Pringle Falls Experimental Forest facility near Bend, Oregon, and serving as Science Representative on the Deschutes Province Advisory Committee within the Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project.

While many research entomologists devote their entire careers to the study of one or two insects, Boyd was extremely broad-based in his work. He was recognized as an authority on wood-boring insects, western spruce budworm, Pandora moth, western pine beetle, Douglas-fir tussock moth, and the uses of dendrochronology.

Throughout his professional career, Boyd had a passion for the history of forest entomology in the western United States. He was dedicated to preserving photographs and reports of historic significance that described early work in the field of forest entomology. Many of these valuable resources cover control projects and surveys from the early 1900s in Crater Lake National Park, southern Oregon, and northern California.

Boyd thoroughly researched the careers of such early pioneers as H. E. Burke, John M. Miller, John Patterson, F. P. Keen and others, and he published numerous works that document the colorful history of forest entomology in the West. A particularly impressive publication described the lives and work of Burke and Miller (“Harry E. Burke and John M. Miller, Pioneers in Western Forest Entomology” USDA Forest Service PNW- GTR- 638 [2005]) in the Bureau of Entomology.

He also published papers on the first large- scale bark beetle control projects in the early 1900s and early forest insect research in the Pacific Northwest in the Ashland Field Station (1912– 1925). As part of his efforts to preserve historic materials and make them available for future researchers, Boyd contributed to the establishment of a special collection of papers and photographs in the Bancroft Library at the University of California, called “The History of Forest Entomology on the Pacific Slope” (California, Oregon, and Washington). From 1993 to 2004, Boyd co- chaired the History Committee of Western Forest Insect Work Conference with Malcolm Furniss and Sandra Kegley.

Boyd was a member of numerous professional societies (Entomological Society of America, Western Forest Insect Work Conference, Tree Ring Society, International Union of Forestry Research Organizations, Oregon Entomological Society) and held offices in several of those organizations. He was one of the earliest Certified Entomologists in the Entomological Society of America and the first and longest- serving Emeritus Scientist with the Pacific Northwest Research Station, USDA Forest Service in Bend. He was in great demand around the world as a lecturer and served as an Adjunct Professor at Oregon State University. Throughout his life, Boyd was an important mentor to aspiring young entomologists.

The Western Forest Insect Work Conference presented him with the Founder’s Award, a highly prestigious honor for career achievement, which encapsulated the dedication that he had for his profession.

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