



Bert Rader

May 9, 1952 - January 8, 2023

Bert Franklin Rader, 70, born May 9, 1952, passed unexpectedly at his home on January 6, 2023. He was born in Crowell, Texas and moved with family to Corsicana, Texas in 1957. He was preceded in death by his parents John Calvin Rader and Velma Beatrice Lewis Rader and his nephew William Trevor Worthen. He is survived by his sister, Gail Worthen and her husband William B Worthen of Corsicana and grandnieces Ashley Diane Worthen, Avery Noel Worthen and Mary Grace Worthen. He is also mourned by his faithful dog, Buck, and his numerous kitties.

He graduated from Corsicana High School and attended the University of North Texas and Southern Methodist University. He was an archeologist and worked as a private contractor, with the Army Corps of Engineers and the National Park Service. His love of all things historical led him to work extensively in the South, Southwest and Northwest as well as Central America. Native American culture was a particular love and he had close ties with many of the Southwestern and Northwestern tribes. He traveled extensively throughout Europe, Asia, and New Zealand as well always focusing on the historical, the wildlife and fauna.

He was a lover of people, animals, and nature. He was as happy in a tent in the desert or a hammock in the jungle as in a fine hotel. He was a lover of adventure, a base jumper, mountain climber, bungee jumper, white water rafter with a heart always ready to help. He was spinner of tales. He was a strong protector of everyone and everything that he loved.

Details of a celebration of life service will be announced at a later date.

Tribute Wall

KH

“ So sorry to hear of Bert's passing, have thought of him many times in the past several years, we had some good adventures while both of us were anthropology graduate students at SMU. One particular memory I will NEVER forget is our harrowing raft trip at Big Bend National Park, about 1974 or so. It was his idea, so during our Easter holiday from school we hightailed it down to do a raft trip through dangerous Santa Elena Canyon. When we arrived, the Rio Grande was in flood stage, and they did not allow rafters to enter the canyon. Coincidentally, the SMU Geology Field School was also there camped out at Terlingua, so we waited a few days hoping the river would subside, but it didn't, and we were running out of time, so one night late we sneaked on to the river in our raft and supplies for 3 days. First night we camped on the Mexican side some wild burros interrupted our sleep but at least no bandidos. Next 2 nights we camped on U.S. side, the water was really treacherous, but we saw some marvelous sights. One particularly dangerous place, forget the name, whirlpools had caused the deaths of many rafters, well we portaged our gear past it then decided to try it anyway, that was Bert! Sure enough we capsized and nearly drowned but finally were able to scramble ashore and not lose the raft, our only escape from the 100-200? foot canyon walls. When we finally emerged at the mouth of the canyon in the park, a norther blew so hard that we made no headway paddling furiously against it and it turned cold. Wet and hungry, we finally beached the raft, deflated it and carried it the last mile. Exhausted, at dark the Geology team rescued us in the SMU TravelAll and took us to Terlingua where we attempted to set up our tent in a 40-mph wind. We finally succeeded and crashed the most exhausted I have ever been in my life, in survival mode, we succeeded. So, I will never forget Bert!

Kurt House

Kurt House - November 23, 2024 at 02:31 PM



“ Bert Rader

October 08, 2023 at 12:04 PM



“ May your memories of Bert bring you peace and comfort. I knew him from SMU and he was a lovely man.

Kate McCalley - January 18, 2023 at 11:03 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Bert Rader.



January 11, 2023 at 11:35 AM