



# John A. Sealander

DEC 9, 1917 - SEP 16, 2003



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# **John A. Sealander**

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**J**ohn Arthur Sealander, Jr. age 85, of Rogers, Arkansas died Tuesday, September 16, 2003 at St. Mary's Hospital in Rogers. He was born to John Arthur and Mary Constance Grimsgaard Sealander at Detroit Lakes, Minnesota on December 9, 1917.

He was married to Lucile Crozier Rehm, daughter of Colonel Harold W. Rehm and Louise E. Rehm on August 24, 1947 at Friday Harbor, Washington. She preceded him in death on March 8, 1990 at the age of 66 years.

He graduated from Luther College in 1940 with an A.B. Degree Cum Laude in Biology and Chemistry. He received an M.S. degree in Zoology from Michigan State University in 1942 and a PHD in Zoology from the University of Illinois in 1949.

He entered the U.S. Navy in 1942 and served in the hospital corps, the amphibious forces and in communications. He served as staff communications officer on the staffs of Commodores Boak and Martin at Manus Naval Base, Pacific and on the staff of Commander Western Sea Frontier, San Francisco. He left the navy in 1946 as a LT (JG) U.S. Naval Reserve.

His professional career was as a professor of zoology at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville from 1949-1988.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother. He is survived by three children; John III of Dallas, Texas, Judith of Bowling Green, Ohio, Sarah of Dallas, Texas and one granddaughter, several nieces and nephews and two sisters.

Memorial services will be held at 11:00 A.M. Saturday, September 20, 2003 at Peace Lutheran Church, 805 W. Olrich, Rogers, Arkansas with Pastor Erik Boye and Pastor Jane Mar officiating. Burial will be in Fairview Memorial Gardens.



## Obituary

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Memorials may be made to Arkansas Children's Hospital, Little Rock, Arkansas, Peace Lutheran Church in Rogers, or to a favorite charity.

Visitation Date Time No Visitation will be held Visitation Location Service Date Time Saturday, September 20, 2003 11:00 AM Service Location Peace Lutheran Church 805 West Olrich Rogers, AR



MF

**Mike And Eileen Lieber (Friend)** posted:

To the family of John and Lucile:Our sincere condolences.

August 30 at 10:12 AM

DA

**Don And Audrey Pedersen (Acquaintance)** posted:

To John, Judy, Sarah and all the family, You have our sympathy and prayers in this time of great loss. We knew John from our Markham Road neighborhood, the University, the church and Scandinavian Society. He was always kind and gracious, a person of strong beliefs and character. He was always modest about his many accomplishments. His passing leaves a large void and he will be missed by all who knew him.

August 30 at 10:12 AM

PS

**Paul J. Polechla Jr., Ph.D. (Former Student)** posted:

I felt honored to be Dr. Sealander's 54th of 54 successful M.S. and Ph.D. students. He was always known for his amount of knowledge that he would lecture about. I filled notebooks from his classes. He always expected and usually received the most from his students. What some people didn't know about him in academia was his humorous side. He could be a real "closet cut-up" with a humorous anecdote, a joke, or a funny story. Things would tickle him so much he would just grin and chuckle. It was infectious. He was a straight shooter and I never did hear him engage in idle gossip. My folks appreciated how he was a regular guy as well as an educator. I really enjoyed going into the field with him. It was a special treat when he did this since often he would spend time (and rightfully so) with his beloved and then ailing wife Lucille. Early on during my studies (1980-87) I took on a summer research technician doing a small mammal survey at Hot Springs National Park. He came and assisted me in netting (and at one point fishing for bats with a cocklebur and a fly rod) bats and catching rodents in Gulpha Gorge. We cooked steaks and drank beers and talked science, world politics (he was self-proclaimed "yellow dog Democrat"), and other important matters. He told me about when Emil Liers visited his school (Luther College I believe) and showed his pet otters. He would talk about his three children..about John III's hot car, about Sarah's job with the airlines, and Judith in Bowling Green. I was also fond of his Alaska adventure stories and caring for box turtles with Lucille (they lobbied for box turtle conservation as a pair). It made me realize that scientists were also husbands, fathers, family men, colleagues, and humans. Dr. Sealander touched a lot of lives in academia and many went on to make good use of their knowledge. The list reads like who's who in medicine, dentistry, biology, wildlife management, academia, zoology in Arkansas and throughout the country. His otter story and guidance inspired me to complete my dissertation on otter ecology and devote my career to studying and teaching about the mysteries of otters and other life, hopefully as John would have liked it. Thanks John, Peace be with you, your family, and friends, Paul

August 30 at 10:12 AM



## Tribute Wall

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**Liz Jacks (Friend Of Family)** posted:

Dr Sealander was my academic advisor 1969-1972. I am now Lead Faculty for Science at NWACC. Dr. Sealander helped make that possible. I am saddened to hear of his passing. My thoughts are with his family.

August 30 at 10:12 AM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring John by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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