Charles Waterman

DE LAND, Fla. - Charles Waterman, 91, died Wednesday, Jan. 12, 2005, at the De Land Hospital in Florida.

He was born in 1913 on a grain farm near Girard. He attended Kansas State Teachers College (now PSU), where he took journalism classes.

He started writing outdoor articles in 1934 for the Pittsburg Headlight, where he worked as both a reporter and photographer.

He served as officer-in-charge of a Navy combat photo team in the South Pacific during World War II.

After the war, he worked as a photographer at the San Mateo Times in San Mateo, Calif. He and his wife moved to Florida in 1952.

He wrote an outdoor column for the Jacksonville Times-Union. He taught literature and journalism at Stetson University for a year, while establishing a freelance outdoors-story market.

He was the author of 20 books on fishing and hunting.

He wrote a monthly column for the Florida Sportsman and won several awards during his career. He earned the 1957 Outdoor Achievement Award by the Florida Association of Magazine Publishers, won the Florida Governor's Conservation Award in 1964 and was named the Top U.S. Outdoor Writer from the National Outdoor Writer's Association in 1976.

He spent 71 years writing award-winning pieces about light-tackle and fly-fishing and the best sports to hunt elk, deer, and moose.

He was an avid cyclist. He was run over while biking by a hit-and-run driver in a 1999 accident. He suffered brain trauma. He learned to walk, talk, and type again and was able to continue writing his monthly column.

His only survivor is his wife DeBie Waterman.

Arrangements were under the direction of the Alavon Direct Cremation Service in South Daytona.

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