



Walter B. Barker

12/25/1952 – 7/12/2010

Walt Barker, photographer, writer, natural philosopher, teacher, and gifted conversationalist, died unexpectedly at his home on July 12th. Walt spent his youth in Portland where he attended David Douglas High School and was active in the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry outdoor science programs. As a youth, he developed a love of the outdoors that stayed with him his entire life. Walt attended Reed College, Portland State University, and the University of Arizona earning Bachelor and Master of Science Degrees in Geology. Walt's college years included extended periods of travel in the southwestern United States. After college, he spent more than a decade teaching in Japan where he developed an appreciation of Japanese culture and met his wife Hidenō "Non" Sugai. After returning from Japan with Non, Walt studied nursing at University of Portland where he developed many close friendships. Most recently, Walt lived in Scappoose, Oregon, where he spent time on home renovation projects, designed and planted an extensive Japanese-style garden, and worked editing scientific manuscripts for Japanese researchers. He had a deep love of photography and had images published and exhibited in galleries. Walt was exceptionally energetic, bright, and gregarious, and could carry on in-depth conversations on a broad range of topics with just about anyone. Walt is survived by his mother, Sybil, his wife, Non, Walt's nieces and nephew: Jordan Blackthorne, Spencer Blackthorne, Taylor Blackthorne and a large circle of friends from several countries. He will be sorely missed. Plans for a memorial gathering are scheduled for August 1 at his home in Scappoose