

PAUL C. MYERS 1948 - 2004

Mr. Paul Charles Myers of Winter Haven passed away in his home September 19, 2004 after a 27-year battle with a rare cancer. He was 55.

Paul worked for the Florida Department of Pollution Control from 1971-1977, then served as director of Polk County's Environmental Services Aquatic Plant Management Department until 1983. He founded Applied Aquatic Management, Inc. in 1981 and served as Executive Vice President until his passing. He was president of the Florida Aquatic Plant Management Society in 1984 and was a past editor of *Aquatics* magazine.

Paul developed and perfected many of the invasive weed management techniques currently in widespread use in Florida. Around 1990, while working with the South Florida Water Management District, he evaluated various "hack and squirt" combinations for melaleuca control and was the first to use contract labor for this work. Paul also was a willing educator and assisted and taught many applicators. His ready smile and laid-back style endeared him to everyone who met him. In recognition of his friendly nature, the Aquatic Plant Management Society awarded the "Max C. McCowen Friendship Award" to Paul in 2000. Paul's professional contributions on behalf of invasive weed management were numerous and his expertise and friendship will be missed.

Paul was a devoted husband, father and grandfather. He was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed hunting, fishing and traveling. He was a member of the First Baptist Church of Lake Alfred. Paul is survived by his wife of 34 years, Linda Webster Myers; daughter Robin Myers, Gainesville, FL; son, Paul C. Myers, Jr., daughter-in-law, Jennifer Myers, and two grandchildren, Jake and Jordan Myers, Winter Haven.

As a tribute to Paul, memorial contributions may be made to the Florida Aquatic Plant Management Society Scholarship and Research Foundation for the newly formed "Paul C. Myers Applicator Dependent Scholarship," c/o Don Doggett, PO Box 60005, Ft. Myers, FL 33906, or to the First Baptist Church of Lake Alfred Building Fund, 280 East Pierce St., Lake Alfred, FL 33850.