

Dedication

Unfortunately and sadly, there comes a time in life when it ends despite individual desires to continue onward and to contribute professionally and personally. Dr. Guy A. Baldassarre surrendered life on 20 August 2012 at the age of 59 years after a courageous battle against leukaemia (Moorman 2013, *The Auk* 130: 194–195). The 6th North American Duck Symposium and Workshop (NADS 6) and this special issue of *Wildfowl* are dedicated to Guy for his decades of contributions to waterfowl science and conservation. Guy inspired countless people internationally through his teaching, research, writing, mentoring, service, humour and friendships. He had an extraordinary ability to amass and synthesise technical information on waterfowl and wetlands into comprehensive texts of international acclaim; most notably the two editions of *Waterfowl Ecology and Management* (1994, 2006; with Eric G. Bolen) and *Ducks, Geese, and Swans of North America* (2014). These treatises will serve as an information resource on waterfowl, and thus our profession, indefinitely. Indeed, Guy so wanted to attend NADS 6 to learn, visit with colleagues and students, and autograph copies of his books, but that trip and symposium were not part of his destiny. We thank Guy for his dedication to family, whom he considered first and foremost in his life, the wildlife profession, humanity, waterfowl, and all the birds he loved so dearly. Guy's contributions are timeless; his legacy lives on among all who knew this gentleman!

Rick Kaminski



Photograph: Guy A. Baldassarre 1953–2012, by Eileen Baldassarre.