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Robert Sharp

Environmental Pioneer

SEBASTOPOL — Robert W. Sharp died Friday, Feb. 19, at Apple Valley Convalescent Hospital after a long illness.

He was 85.

A life-long wildlife biologist, Mr. Sharp made his career with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at Fort Snelling, Minnesota and contributed to Native American tribal fisheries and wild rice cultivation.

He moved to Sonoma County in 1978 where he worked as an environmental consultant and advocate.

He was one of the original members of the West Sonoma County Rural Alliance and served as president for over 16 years.

He also served on the first board of the Laguna Foundation and was a dedicated advocate of its preservation.

Mr. Sharp was an avid hunter and took pride in serving as a hunter safety instructor for over 20 years.

During WWII, Mr. Sharp served as a Naval Intelligence Officer on the U.S.S. Ticonderoga and earned a Purple Heart in combat.

He is survived by his wife Dorothy; son, Robert W. Sharp, Jr. of Graton; daughters Catherine Sharp of Graton, Tina Reuwsaat of Manassas, Virginia, six grandchildren, and two great grandchildren.