

On behalf of the family and friends of Bill Guegel I would like to present a donation of \$735.00 to the Headwaters Chapter of the 'Let's Go Fishing' program.

Our father moved to the Park Rapids area as a young boy when his parents became managers of Hoosier Beach Resort on Lower Bottle and Stocking Lakes north of Park Rapids. By the age of 13 he started guiding. In high school he guided for many of the area resorts and local summer residents, from Hoosier Beach on Bottle Lake to Pine Cone Lodge on Big Sand and many on Potato, Island, Long, and Fishhook.

After High School, Bill started working part time for the DNR Fisheries Division. By 1952 he was full time. Eventually becoming the local manager for the Park Rapids Office. He continued to work for the DNR in this capacity until his retirement in 1987. He worked closely with the area conservation clubs and offices throughout Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan to ensure the quality of the fishing on the area lakes. He was also instrumental in restoring the Straight River to one of the premier trout streams. I remember many guests from the main office in St. Paul coming to our home so dad could ensure that they would be able to have a fish story to tell when they went home.

He loved sharing his love of fishing with his family and lifelong friends. The best part was the shore lunch or fish fry that benefited from his expertise.

He enjoyed watching his children and grandchildren reel in their first crappie, walleye, and northern to mastering the art of fly fishing. (So far, none of us can filet a northern as well as he could!)

When he recently passed, we were discussing what memorials would best benefit what was important to dad. We felt that by this donation to your program you would help continue his legacy of ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to enjoy the love of fishing on the waters of the local lakes.