



**IN MEMORIAM**  
**Peter Jordan 1930–2017**

Our dear friend, colleague, and mentor Dr. Peter A. Jordan passed away in St. Paul, Minnesota on April 1, 2017 at the age of 87. Peter Albion Jordan was born in Alameda, California on January 2, 1930. He spent his youth in Santa Cruz, chasing critters around in the Monterey Bay tidepools with his older sister, and graduated from Alameda High School. During his early teenage years, Peter spent several summers working at Yosemite National Park's Camp Curry. He talked often about those years, as they certainly solidified his love of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Peter went to nearby UC-Berkeley where he earned a BS degree in Zoology, then proceeded on to work on his PhD with the famed A. Starker Leopold at the same university. During this time, Peter was a part of collecting trips to Mexico for Starker Leopold's classic "Mammals of Mexico" book. His PhD dissertation focused on the ecology of mule deer in the Sierras, which included the technique of using bells to locate collared deer. From 1963-1966, he worked as a post-doc at Purdue for Durward Allen's study of moose and wolves at Isle Royale, which continues to this day as the longest predator-prey study in the world. After completing his post-doc, he took a faculty position at the Yale School of Forestry before settling into his faculty position at the University of Minnesota's Department of Fisheries and Wildlife in 1974. Peter continued his

work on moose foraging ecology at Isle Royale, and was perhaps most famous for his hypothesis about the role of sodium as a limiting nutrient for moose. Peter also began collaborating with other moose researchers from around the world but Sweden quickly became his home away from home, where he spent 3 different sabbaticals starting in the 1980s. Peter received the Distinguished Moose Biologist Award in 1998 to recognize his international achievements in moose research. In addition to his moose research, Peter supervised students who studied mammals in India and Morocco. Twenty-two graduate students earned their degrees under his tutelage. He was president of the Minnesota Chapter of The Wildlife Society in 1980 and was the faculty mentor for the student chapter of TWS several times during his tenure at UMN. In 2012 he received the University of Minnesota's College of Forestry and Natural Resources Outstanding Club/Student Organization Advisor award for his support of the TWS student chapter. Peter officially retired from the Department in 2005 but remained active in his research and student mentoring into his 80s, including making his last field data collection trip to Isle Royale at the age of 80. His keen ecological mind, his thirst for adventure, and his sense of humor will be missed by his many friends, former students, and colleagues in Minnesota, Sweden and elsewhere.