

OBITUARY

Captain Ron Harrod

1943–1998

Captain Ron Harrod died on 9 April, 1998 along the Myaca River, Florida with his sons at his side. He died after a short, but devastating bout of cancer. He was 55 years old.

Ron was a strong supporter and a charter member of the International Iguana Society.

Ron will be remembered as a great photographer, contributing many excellent photographs of numerous iguana species for *Iguana Times*. He was the captain of the 38 ft. trawler, *Essence*, which was used by the I.I.S. as a research vessel in the Exuma Island chain in the Bahamas from April to August, 1993. Due to Ron's generosity, a survey of many populations of the Exuma Island iguana, *Cyclura cyclura figginsii*, was performed. The first census of *Cyclura rileyi nuchalis*, in the Exumas, was also accomplished. Vegetation surveys of numerous islands throughout the Exumas and Bahamas were initiated.

Richard Montanucci, Robert Ehrig, Richard Moyroud, Chuck Knapp, Tina Henize, and Linda Aurenhammer were transported around various iguana habitats in the Bahamas by Captain Ron. He was also a former Delta Airlines pilot.

Ron Harrod, our friend, will be missed.

Robert Ehrig

The International Iguana Society is deeply saddened by the passing of Ron Harrod. Ron was a long-time member and friend of the Society. He volunteered his photographic skills, with many of his photographs appearing in the earlier issues of *Iguana Times*. Ron also graciously volunteered the use of his boat *Essence* to conduct iguana surveys in the Exumas.

I became friends with Ron during a two week cruise down the Exuma chain in search of *Cyclura cyclura figginsii*. We, along with fellow IIS member Tina Henize, were conducting surveys of *C. c. figginsii* populations along the route to Great Exuma. It was my first trip to the Exumas and had a strong impact on the rest of my professional and academic career.

Ron's 38 foot Choy Lee trawler, *Essence* was our home and mode of transport down the island chain. During times of travel and relaxation aboard the boat, Ron taught us about photographic history, birds, navigation, and nautical knots. He was a regular "jack of all trades." To this day, I remember his teachings and I can still tie his knots. Ron was avid with his movie camera and documented every aspect of the trip. I still remember him getting somewhat agitated when Tina and I captured our only *C. c. figginsii* and released him before he had a chance to shoot video. It was very important for him to document all aspects of island life.

Ron will be missed, but I am sure that the people that knew him will always remember him. I know I will.

Chuck Knapp





Green iguana head.
10 October, 1992



Male Grand Cayman blue iguana.
10 October, 1992
3 year-old male,
Cyclura nubila lewisi.



First moments of life. September, 1991
Hatchling Cuban iguana, *Cyclura nubila*. First published on cover of *Iguana Times*, Vol. 1, No. 4.



Rhino hatching. 10 October, 1992
Second day in the life of a rhinoceros iguana, *Cyclura cornuta*. Cover of *Iguana Times*, Vol. 1, No. 6.



Exhausted hatchling. 10 October, 1992
Hatchling rhino rests after struggling to free itself from egg.



Fighting back. 10 October, 1992
Hatchling rhino defends itself shortly after birth.

All photography by Ron Harrod at Finca Cyclura Reserve, 1991–1992.