

Randy Widaman- *by Frank Burek and Ja Van Pruett*

Capt. Randy Widaman

October 2, 1945 – January 26, 2021

Randy drove the M/V Fling and M/V Spree for so many trips out to the Flower Gardens has passed away on January 26, 2021 at 11pm. A Huge loss to everyone who had known him. Randy was liked by so many people. I was lucky enough to have had him as my captain. He drove the boats and I cooked.



Randy's information: Gathered from Frank Burek and Ja Van Pruett

TGCC Member of the Year – 2008
TGCC Neptune Award – 2011
TGCC Lifetime Achievement Award – 2009 (1 of 9 original recipients)
Trashfest – Randy worked over seeing the Weigh In for many years.
Bay Area Diver Rep to the TGCC – 2010 to 2014.
TGCC 1st Vice President – 2011 to 2016.
TGCC 2nd Vice President – 2017 to 2021.
Bay Area Diver President – 2002,



2003, 2007 (See SeaSpace Photo included).

Bay Area Diver Vice President (BAD)

BAD Board of Director member 2009, -- 2004-2006, 2008, 2009, 2012, 2013

BAD – TGCC Representative 2015

HUPS Member 2008 to 2015.

HUC – Probably a member from 1980 to 1993. (I remember him from around 1980. I do have a membership directory listing him in 1993. Not listed in the 1995 directory. He was not on the final HUC membership list that was turned over to me in 2012.)

NASA Lunarflins Dive Club – President 2007, 2008, 2013

NASA Lunarflins Dive Club – Vice President 2009-2011, 2014, 2015

Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary (FGBNMS), Sanctuary Advisory Council (SAC) – The SAC is composed of members from 8 constituent (stakeholder) groups, with 2 members representing each group. Those groups are Recreational Diving, Dive Operations, Oil & Gas Production, Recreational Fishing, Commercial Fishing, Research, Education and Conservation. Randy SAC history is: Dive Operations Representative 2015 to 2018.

He was a member of the SAC's Boundary Expansion Working Group. They created the plan for expanding the FGBNMS to 160.4 square miles (An increase of approximately 104 square miles, adding 14 additional banks to the existing 3). The final rule for that plan has been issued and should become law in about 40 days.

Randy worked as a Boat Captain for Rinn Boats 1989-2002 taking people out to the Flower Gardens National Marine Sanctuary



Randy went on to become a Level II Electronics Technician at Cyberonics, League City, Texas, United States.

Peggy L. Widaman (Randy's sister), Frank Burek and myself have asked permission to place a marker for Randy on one of the dive sites at the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary. I know that Ted Wimprine has a marker there.

P.S. Peggy tested positive Covid-19 the same time Randy did. Randy passed on to Heaven and Peggy survived. Please wear your mask, wash your hands and get your vaccine.