



Jack Rudloe has jellyfish named for him

A sea wasp jellyfish is named *Chiropsella rudloei*

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Local Marine Biologist Jack Rudloe recently received two exciting pieces of news.

First, he and his late wife Anne, have been named finalists in the Environmental Law Institute's annual National Wetlands Awards (NWA).

The awards are designed to recognize individuals who have excelled in wetlands protection, restoration, and education.

Thomas Manning of Valdosta State University nominated the Rudloes for their work and dedication to the environment.

According to the program's website, awardees will be chosen by a committee of wetland experts representing the conservation and business communities, as well as federal, state, and local governments. Winners will be announced later in the year.

Secondly, after being notified that he was nominated for the environmental award, Rudloe came across another piece of news while researching what the awards entail - and found that a species of jellyfish had been named after him.

A research paper written by the University of Maryland's Bastian Bentlage described the particular specimen that Rudloe had collected using a shrimp trawl during a research expedition he took part in off the coast of Madagascar in the 1960s.

Under the "etymology" section of the paper, it reads: "The specific name was chosen to honor Jack Rudloe for his dedication to the study and protection of the marine environment and its inhabitants."

The sea wasp jellyfish is named *Chiropsella rudloei*.

Rudloe took part in the International Indian Ocean Expedition when he was just 20 years old - a project which included scientists from over 25 different countries and took more than 40 research vessels to accomplish.

"At that time I didn't really know anything," Rudloe said. "I had gone to three months of college and had gotten booted out."

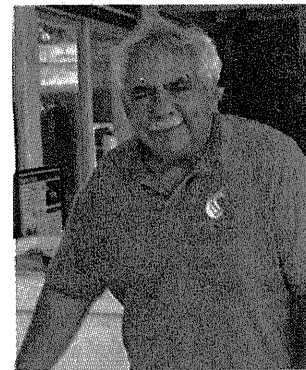
Rudloe said that, at the time, he was just starting Gulf Specimen Marine Lab and he was collecting specimens in the Gulf of Mexico and driving them up north to museums and even Harvard University to pursue their expertise and ask, "What's this?"

"I tell people I poached a Harvard education," Rudloe joked.

But through that process, he happened to visit the lab of one of the expedition's leaders just as he was preparing to leave for Madagascar.

"He told me about it and I said, 'Hey, I want to go,'" Rudloe recalled. "He asked me what I would do there and I just started talking really fast." Rudloe said they eventually came to an agreement that he would with the sole purpose of collecting specimens.

Rudloe was a part of the expedition for a period of six months, though he said he wishes he had stayed longer.



Jack Rudloe