

Fishing – Memories Your Friends and Family Will Cherish Forever

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Today, I can still vividly remember the first bluegill I met nearly 55 years ago. Little did I know then that my encounter with him would forever shape my life. What a remarkable journey that beautiful, wondrous creature sent me on.

Between then and now, thousands of fishing memories have been etched into my mind. They are not only of fish, of course, but they are of family and friends and people I've met along the way. Some I have guided, some have guided me. These memories are of places I've live, wild rivers I've floated, tranquil lakes and streams, ponds and oceans and the flora and fauna found there. I have beautiful memories that I will cherish forever.

Today, vacation dollars are hard to find in the family budget. Discretionary income has evaporated for many. When one does find the necessary funds, naturally the mission is to get the most bang for the buck ... a vacation that will relax and reinvigorate and restore one's ability to again cope with the demands of life. Time spent with friends in a shared endeavor is especially valuable but introducing one's children to the many joys of life and the wonders of the world is imperative. What better place to accomplish these goals is there than in the natural world of a lake, a stream, or the sea,

Personally, I think that when I push my boat away from the dock, whether by myself or with a boat load of clients, I want to enter a world different from the one I have left. I want to leave the daily commute behind, I want leave the telephones and TV, the news casts and the need to compete at the dock. I want to enter a world of wonder and enlightenment, I want my customers to relax and get tuned into the environment. I want them to notice the sunrise, the breeze, the warmth of the sun, the birds and Dolphin. I want them to enjoy the cruise ... the journey I am about to take them on. I don't want myself to be their main focus today. I want them to relate to their surroundings, their friends and their family.

Fishing is not just about fish. Fishing is about the relationship one has with one's friends and family and with the environment. For kids, this is where it all starts. This is where all the science is and yes, this is where religion is. This is what God has made for us.

I have many customers who do not fish. They hire me to take them on a Eco Tour to see the sights or use me as a water taxi. My boat and I become their own personal

“water limo” and I’ll whisk them away to private secluded beaches, shorebird rookeries, and manatee nurseries. Dolphins and alligators are especially fascinating to view in the wild. Kids marvel at the wonders of the sea. Crabs, shells and jellyfish can entertain all.

Yes, there are plenty of fish, large and small and beautiful ... all amazing creatures just like my very first bluegill. I have had fantastic charters with lots of fish caught, big fish and some gruesome shark attacks. Most all of this has been shared with others who have in turn shared it all with friends and family. Many of these events have been recorded on film and microchip but most all have been etched into the minds of those who experienced them.

Take your friends and family fishing. Take them on an Eco Tour. Take them to a lake, a stream or the sea. Introduce the young to the wonders of the world. Share those wonders with your friends. These moments will create memories that you, your friends and family will cherish forever.