

(from *The Washington Post*)

CONSERVATIONIST LOUIS S. CLAPPER DIES AT 82

December 23, 1998

Louis S. Clapper, 82, a retired National Wildlife Federation vice president for national affairs who wrote for and edited some of the conservation group's publications before his retirement in 1981, died of cancer Dec. 22 at his home in Silver Spring (*Maryland*).

In 1960, Mr. Clapper, who focused on environmental efforts to curb water pollution and contamination of air and land resources, briefly served as the federation's acting conservation director. In that capacity, he administered its lobbying activities and testified before Congress on conservation and environmental issues.

He completed a three-year term on the Presidential Water Pollution Control Advisory Board in 1971 and for two years chaired the Citizens' Crusade for Clean Waters.

Mr. Clapper, a former Tennessee Game and Fish Commission public relations officer and assistant director, came to Washington to join the staff of the federation in 1958. At various times, he edited the federation's Conservation News and Conservation Report. He was Washington editor for both National Wildlife and International Wildlife magazines.

He was born in Unionville, Mo. After graduating from the University of Missouri with a degree in journalism, he became a sportswriter for the Kansas City Journal. There, outdoor activities were among his assignments.

During World War II, he served in the Navy as a deck officer, communications officer and assistant damage control officer of a twice-torpedoed cruiser. Following the war, he became an editor and co-publisher of a weekly newspaper in Donelson, Tenn.

He was a member of the Outdoor Writers Association of America and the National Press Club, chairman of the Natural Resources Council of America and a member of the Executive Committee of the American Association for International Conservation.

He was an ordained minister and Sunday school teacher at Luther Rice Memorial Baptist Church in Silver Spring.

Survivors include his wife, the former Grace Adamson, of Silver Spring; three children, William Louis Clapper of Reston, and Charles Oden Clapper and Carolyn Berngartt, both of Silver Spring; six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.