

Arkansas Chapter Trout Unlimited 2002 Conservation Banquet & Auction In Memory of Coy C. Kaylor



Last December, we lost one of the pioneers of the Arkansas Chapter of Trout Unlimited. Coy Kaylor's work with TU is legendary.

During the Arkansas Chapter's early years, Coy owned a restaurant named Coy's and he hosted all of the monthly TU meetings. In addition, Coy gave his time, energy and resources to many different conservation organizations and even earned the nickname "Mr. Unlimited". He was especially fond of his work with TU and catered all of the banquets for the Chapter. The standard fare for banquets was his famous smoked prime rib and smoked trout.

Coy charged the Chapter for the food costs, but then spent that and more on auction items. He was an enthusiastic bidder, driving the prices of items well above what it would normally cost retail. Coy also was a dedicated worker, spending hours on the auction and with work parties at the Beaver Tailwaters. Coy's favorite auction activity was games – he always manned the egg drop game and the penny raffle.

A true conservationist, Coy was a great hand at the Beaver Tailwaters where he worked many hours as a volunteer. His most important contribution there was his cooking. Coy loved to cook and provided lunch on many occasions for the work crews. He also enjoyed trips to the Norfolk Hatchery where he clipped fins on hatchery fish. Often he would cajole others into a fin-clipping contest that he never lost – his record was over 2200 trout clipped in one session.

As a man of vision, Coy was interested in conservation programs for young people. He regularly worked with youth groups and contributed time, equipment and resources to educational classes on trout fishing and conservation.

Because of his unparalleled work with conservation groups and especially with Trout Unlimited, the Arkansas Chapter has created the Coy Kaylor Conservation Award that will be co-sponsored with the Arkansas Fisheries Society. This award will be given annually at the Arkansas Chapter of Trout Unlimited Banquet and Auction.