

Dedication

Proceedings of the Indian River Lagoon Symposium 2020

Sherry Anne Reed

February 2, 1959 – December 16, 2019



These Proceedings of the Indian River Lagoon Symposium are dedicated to Sherry Reed. Sherry passed away on December 16, 2019, at the age of 60, following a brief battle with cancer. Sherry is known to hundreds of scientists for the unparalleled field and lab support she provided during her 36-year career at the Smithsonian Marine Station (SMS). Joining SMS in August 1983, shortly after earning a degree in Biology from Wheaton College, she served as Research Assistant and SMS Diving Officer until her promotion to Station Manager in 2015. Sherry was on the Board of Directors of both the American Academy of Underwater Sciences and the International Women Divers Hall of Fame, and she was the first female scientific diving officer in the United States.

Sherry approached all her work with a unique blend of grit, determination, and kindness, for which she was described by her friends and colleagues as the “heart of the Smithsonian Marine Station.” Sherry spent a good part of her career on the Indian River Lagoon. Sherry loved life, she loved the lagoon, she loved the life in the lagoon, that is, its Biodiversity. She helped many of us to explore the lagoon and its life, opening up opportunities and opening up our eyes. We think this dedication is a tribute to Sherry that is well deserved.