

Like them or love them, agree with him or not, Rose Mary and Joe Peak were avid promoters and supporters of what is good about the Silver Valley. Never short or absent to offer free meals, time or effort for the youth and communities of the valley; they were always there. With their regretful passing in 2012; longtime friends are gathering to assure their "treasured stay" with us is not forgotten.

A handmade, custom, Douglas Fir sitting bench is being created in North Idaho to be installed at the Steamboat Pond on the North Fork this summer. Joe before his passing had often spoken of creating such a memorial as "Rose Mary's Roost" for his beloved wife in this spot. Parents and grandparents will be able to watch their kids fish and play in the water from "Peak's Perch."

The bench made from Silver Valley fir is being designed and constructed by students and educators at the Kootenai Technical Education Center, KTEC. Working with the Idaho department of fish and game as well as Idaho parks and recreation, the bench dedication is slated for early summer.

Much of the material and labor costs are being donated but associated expenses will need to be covered. The long time friends and beneficiaries of Rose Mary and Joe's love are being asked to contribute to effort. J.A. Sandy Emerson a long-time friend of the Peaks from Coeur d'Alene is spearheading this worthwhile project.

All those interested in donating to the Peak Memorial Bench Project may send them to the Peaks Perch Project, c/o IFWF (the Idaho Fish and Wildlife Foundation) at PO Box 2254, Boise, ID 83701. Bill Scudder, Rick Shaffer, or Sandy Emerson would also be glad to receive donations to this project directly and will forward them as well. There will be announcements and donation opportunities during at least 2 events to be held up in the Valley in May.

Sandy Emerson/news release