



**Leonard J. Soucy Jr.**

I regret to inform you that one of the true old time raptor banders and wildlife rehabilitation pioneers, my dad Leonard J. Soucy, Jr. passed away in June.

Our rehab center, The Raptor Trust, has cared for more than 90,000 wild birds since its inception in 1982, and my dad's banding project in the Appalachians – The Kittatinny Mountains Raptor Banding Station – has banded more than 16,000 migrating raptors since it began in the early 70's (and is STILL going under his sub-permitees).

He was a close friend and colleague to many in the North American Bird Banding circles and was published in *NABB* on several occasions.

I'm hoping you will pass this message along to others at EBBA and its affiliates, and if it seems appropriate, to perhaps include a brief memorial to his stalwart advocacy of wild birds in an upcoming issue of *NABB* magazine.

**Chris Soucy**  
**Executive Director**  
**The Raptor Trust**



# *Inland Regional News*

***Inland Bird Banding Association***

**Founded 1922**

## **President's Notes**

Many "moons" ago, when I was young, my father took on the responsibility of a 4-H Club in a small Nebraska community (pop. 150); one year (1949) the Club took on "bird-watching" as one of its activities. I still have the records of the birds I observed that year. My dad and I continued "birding" when we moved to the big city (Lincoln) and later on (in the mid 1950s) to an even bigger "community" on the Maryland side of Washington, DC. Back then "birding" was still an avocation that I pursued through high school and the first two years of college. Then, during the summer after my sophomore year, I was given my first opportunity to

go professional and worked as a wildlife aid at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center (Laurel, MD).

It was those early experiences that brought me to the forefront of bird conservation and made it possible to receive my Federal Bird Banding Permit in 1960. I have had the privilege of working with birds and bird conservation in many locations for more than 50 years; the majority of that time was spent, professionally, in Illinois. Conservation is a way for those of us who really care about birds to promote the ideals and conservation ethics we believe in and to share them with everyone willing to listen and learn. There are many ways to ensure