Stanley Tuttle “trout fished” from his tying bench!

Stanley Tuttle 1941-2015
Buffalo Creek, Joes Fork and Linville River, Patterson, North Carolina

Stanley began fly and tying flies in 1960. His early mentors were Tony Woods, “Cap” Wiese and Newland Saunders. His favorite fly rod was a Fenwick 7 ½-foot which was built for Stanley by Tony Woods. His largest trout caught was a 26 ½ inch brown trout caught in the New River, North Carolina.

He worked in furniture his entire life. His hobbies were naturally in his wood workshop (which “Cap” Wiese helped him build) in hand turning wooden bowls and making small items for friends and family.
Rita, his wife for fifty years, and his daughter Camilla tolerated his fly fishing habits. But his son Monty and grandson Bryan are following in his footsteps as avid fishermen. Stanley has three grandsons, two granddaughters (both are school teachers) and a great granddaughter. Family was more important to him than fly fishing, yet fly fishing and fly tying was a very big aspect of his life.

Stream Blazer Stanley Tuttle 1941-2015
Fly Fishing with “Cap” Wiese

We left out one morning at around six am on a trip to the lower end of Boone Fork Creek. On our way up Highway 321 near Blowing Rock, lying on the side of the road was a dead skunk. “Cap” wanted me to stop. He got out and picked it up holding it like it was a baby, and smelled it. He finally got into the truck and said that if he could bottle that smell, he’d have his wife wear it at all times. I told him that he would never have to worry about her running around on him and he roared with laughter.
Stanley Tuttle of Lenoir turns a small bowl on the lathe in his workshop. Tuttle suffers from emphysema but continues his love for woodworking.

At peace in his workshop

Woodcarver inspires those around him with battle against emphysema by honing his craft.

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Stanley Tuttle centers the small piece of mahogany on the wood lathe. His hands are guided. An accident with a wood saw claimed three fingers of his right hand. Still, armed with a lifetime of experience, Tuttle expertly shapes the piece of stock into a bowl.

His workspace is tight. Specks of wood dust airlessly drift through the air. Pegboard panels hang on the wall, and tools of his craft fill every inch of space. It is a cold, rainy afternoon, but Tuttle, 70, doesn't mind.

TuttleWhereas mightily when he gets up, each breath a struggle. A large man by the door pumps massage-relieving steam over his neck, later converted to a vapor, into what is left of his lungs.

Tuttle is in the latter stages of emphysema, a disease that has ravaged his lungs for decades. He only goes out if his wife, Rita says, but for these precious moments, the wood by Millers' Workshop is his home.

Tuttle's grandfather was George Kincaid, founder of Kincaid Furniture. His dad, the late Bernard Tuttle, married Edna Kincaid. George's daughter, Bernadette, founded Tuttle Wood Products after Kincaid was sold. The business was sold in 1991.

Two years after retiring and quitting smoking, a habit he picked up at age 10, a doctor diagnosed Tuttle with emphysema. Tuttle realized the disease had had a diaphragm. His lungs were not used to the demands of woodworking, Tuttle soonsed his hands the disease took on its victims.

Tuttle observed how much time he could lose had if not for the disease.

Some examples of Stanley Tuttle's handiwork are seen in his small workshop.

TUTTLE Continued from LA

Empire was a destructive fungus of the bag in which the wool (small scale) to promote oxygen exchange between the air and the bloodstream as damaged. Smoking is the primary cause of emphysema, which makes it a preventable disease. But it was also in Tuttle's genes.

Tuttle was placed in oxygen and the disease worsened. Faced with his own mortality, he and Rita began to travel, hitting 41 of the 50 states the next few years. Tuttle would strap a portable oxygen tank to his back and use the larger tanks at night. During a visit to Las Vegas, Tuttle was asked to sign some of his Donna. Tuttle said he was not sure.

With time on his hands, Tuttle began to create fine jewelry. He also opened a shop in the Highwood Dunes community and created his own line of wood bowls.

Heproblem with accessibility, he decided to open up his own store.

Tuttle looks at the shiny wood bowls and smiles. His work is done.