Pioneering oceanographer DONALD HOOD, 83, died April 10, 2002, in Friday Harbor, Wash.

Mr. Hood was born July 12, 1918, in Newcastle, Pa., to Charles and Ida Blews Hood. He graduated from East Brook High School in Newcastle in 1936 as valedictorian. He attended Westminster College in Pennsylvania. He earned degrees in agbiochemistry from Pennsylvania State University in 1940 and in agricultural chemistry from Oklahoma A & M College in 1942.

During World War II, he served as a chemist in the war effort for Oklahoma Ordinance Works and the Atomic Energy Commission on the Manhattan Project.

He married Betty Ellen Jackson in Richland, Wash., on Nov. 22, 1945. In 1950, he received his doctorate in biochemistry from Texas A & M University, then helped establish the Department of Oceanography at Texas A & M from 1950-65.

In 1965, Mr. Hood became director of the Institute of Marine Science at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, focusing much of his research on the Bering Sea. During his career, he authored or contributed to more than 100 professional articles and edited or co-edited nine books.

He and his wife retired to San Juan Island, Wash., in 1976.

His family wrote, "Don is remembered by his family as a warm, funny and wise companion who had a rich love for life and a gentle and generous heart."

He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Betty Hood of Friday Harbor; daughters and sons-in-law, Rebecca and Scott Davis of Orem, Utah, Barbara Hood and Dirk Sisson of Anchorage, and Susan Hood-Sisson and Blaine Sisson of Fairbanks; nine grandchildren, Jason, Katie, Mandy, Erin, Megan, Molly, Emily, Matthew and Annie; and one great-grandchild, Collin.