

## George DeWolfe obituary

The landscape photographer George DeWolfe, OH, died on July 2, 2023 at the age of 78. As a young man, George climbed in the Alps and Tetons, among other ranges, before finding a welcoming home in the Whites and at the AMC in the early 1970s , where he worked at Tuckerman and was AMC's first artist-in-residence, a position that combined two of his greatest passions; mountains and photography. His MFA thesis was a black-and-white portfolio of the Whites taken with a large-format camera and he was a frequent contributor to AMC publications, including the large format photography book, *New England's White Mountains: At Home in the Wild*, the cover of *The Wildest Country: A Guide to Thoreau's Maine*, photographs and essays in *Appalachia* magazine, and the club's first photo calendars.

George worked as a commercial photographer and taught at the New England School of Photography, University of Idaho, and Colorado Mountain College on his way to gaining a national reputation as a master photographic printer and teacher. George and his longtime partner and fellow photographer, Lydia Goetze, taught photography workshops around the world, including in China and locations across the American West. A self-proclaimed "photographer of the mysteries of the world," George described his approach as a combination of the structure of ancient Chinese landscape painting with that of Western landscape genres, which allowed him to achieve his distinctive, mysterious style. In 1995, George went to Mount Desert Island in Maine to create a photographic archive for the conservation group Friends of Acadia. He loved the place, and never left. In addition to the AMC and Friends of Acadia, George photographed for

many environmental organizations over the course of 40 years, including the Sierra Club, Friends of the Earth, Mass Audubon, and the National Park Service. He was also honored by Friends of Acadia with their Award for Artistic Excellence.

Known for his great sense of humor by friends and students, George was also a talented musician and model builder; both were pursuits he enjoyed for many decades and into his retirement. George is survived by his life partner, Lydia Butler Goetze; his son, Lucien DeWolfe of Palm Bay, FL; his grandson Mason DeWolfe of Greensburg, PA; and five grandchildren. His good friend Ken Olson fondly recalls that George always closed his letters with, "Light, George." George DeWolfe was a man who passionately lived and worked in the light, and we are warmed and brightened by the beautiful glow he created.

