

In Memoriam: Raul N. Ferreira (1939-2025)

Passionate Entomologist, Lifelong Naturalist, and Devoted Community Member

Raul N. Ferreira, an honorary member of the Connecticut Entomological Society and a passionate contributor to the field of entomology, passed away peacefully at his home in Pawcatuck, Connecticut, on March 7, 2025. He was 85.

Born in Avelar, Ansião, Portugal, Raul spent his formative years between mainland Portugal and Mozambique before enrolling at the University of Coimbra, one of Portugal's most esteemed institutions. There, as an undergraduate, he published his first article on Staphylinidae, an early sign of the lifelong passion for beetles that would define much of his life.

During his military service, Raul was stationed in East Timor, where he collected at least eighteen species of rove beetles, many of which were later described by European taxonomists. After fulfilling his service, he returned to Coimbra to complete his academic training, eventually earning a Master's degree in Biology with a specialization in Entomology.

He immigrated to the United States in the early 1970s, settling in Connecticut. Though unable to secure a formal academic position in Entomology, Raul channeled his discipline and attention to detail into manufacturing, retiring as a Manufacturing Manager at SeaCon Phoenix.

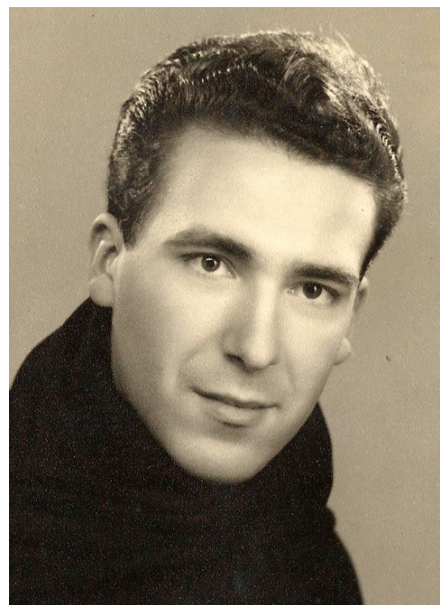
Raul's dedication extended beyond research. He brought a quiet determination and unwavering generosity to his community, always ready to share a pin, a story, or a hard-won field tip. Raul authored over 60 scientific publications and built an expansive insect collection. He participated in more than 35 BioBlitz events, collected insects across numerous states and countries, and regularly corresponded with entomologists worldwide. A devoted member of the Connecticut Entomological Society, Raul attended 238 CES meetings, more than any other member, serving as Treasurer, Secretary, and newsletter contributor.

His presence, consistency, and enthusiasm left a lasting impression on all who knew him. His meticulous methods, field rigor, and deep curiosity made him a sought-after collaborator and advisor across the entomological community.

Raul's wife, Rosa, passed away in June 2024. In her honor, he established the Rosa and Raul Ferreira Young Entomologists Fellowship Fund¹ through the Rhode Island Natural History Survey. Though he passed before the fund became active, his family continues to bring this vision to life to support future generations of entomologists.

Raul is survived by his son Joe, daughter Maria, their spouses, and grandchildren Justin and Nicholas. His legacy endures in the specimens he collected, the colleagues he inspired, and the quiet passion he brought to every insect he encountered.

José E. Ferreira, Maria A. Ferreira & Michael E. Montgomery



¹ Memorial donations should be directed to the Rosa and Raul Ferreira Fund via the Rhode Island Natural History Survey at <https://rinhs.org>. Please include "Ferreira Fund" in the message or check memo.

In Memoriam
Raul Nascimento Ferreira (1939-2025)

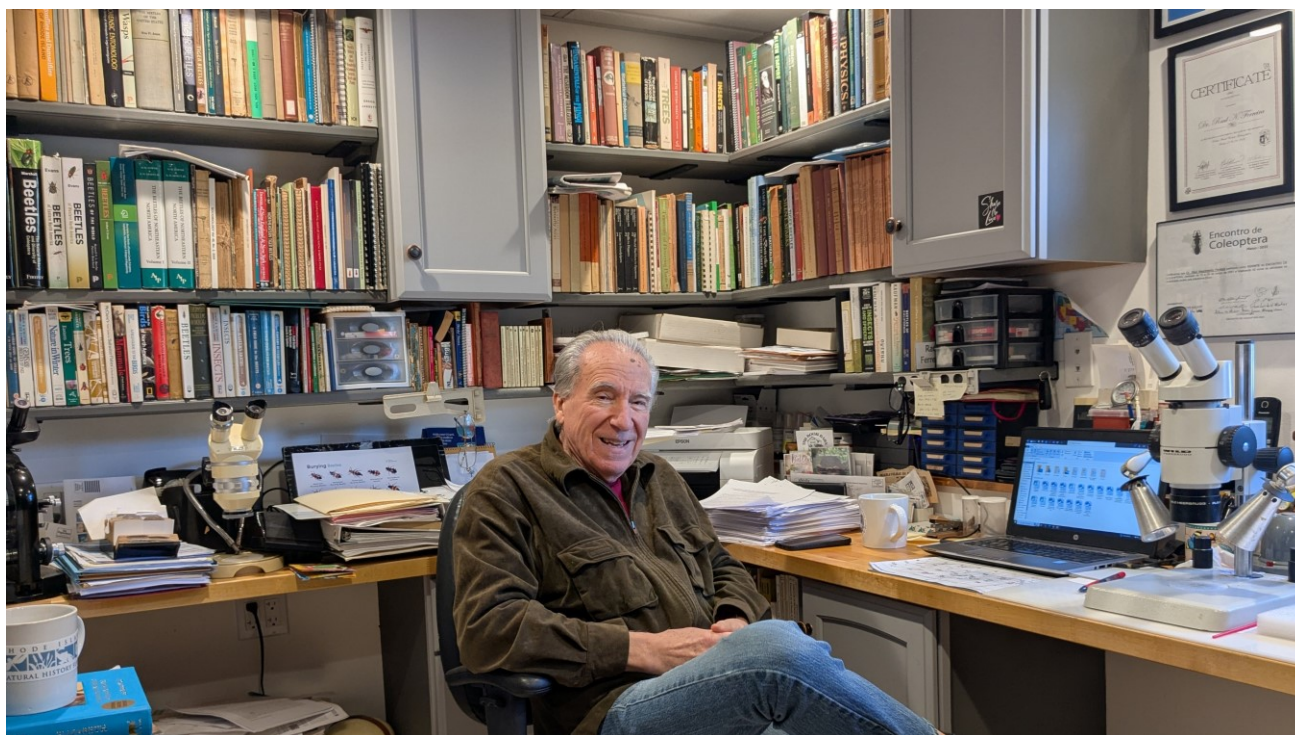
Como todos los años, Raul acudía fiel a su cita con los estafílinidos en *Arquivos Entomológicos*. En esta ocasión, a principios de febrero, nada hacía presagiar que sería nuestra última ocasión de cruzarnos correos con él, pues incluso nos contaba con ilusión que planeaba visitar Portugal este verano, lo que nos permitiría por fin conocernos en persona dada la cercanía geográfica. La extrañeza por su falta de respuesta a las pruebas finales del manuscrito pronto se convirtió en desolación al enterarnos de su inesperado fallecimiento.

La agradable sorpresa de recibir su primer manuscrito en 2011 y su continuo apoyo a nuestra revista hasta el final de sus días hizo que Raul siempre fuese una debilidad para nosotros. Con su entrañable portu-inglés, además, nos hacía partícipes de las cosas importantes de su vida, por lo que sufrimos con él el penoso trance de perder a su mujer el año pasado o nos alegramos sabiendo que trataba de montar su nuevo laboratorio o los ya mencionados planes de viajar a su país de origen.

Una treintena de colaboraciones después, nos quedamos sin uno de nuestros más apreciados colegas, del que echaremos de menos su capacidad de trabajo, su amistad y la humildad de la que siempre hizo gala con nosotros. Sirvan de modestísimo homenaje estas pocas líneas y la portada del volumen actual de la revista.

Queremos agradecer desde aquí la atención de Raimundo Outerelo, Purificación Gamarra y Michael Schülke a todas nuestras consultas a lo largo de estos casi 15 años. Muy especialmente a José Manuel Grosso-Silva, cuya ayuda ha resultado fundamental para la edición final de los trabajos de Raul. Por último, queremos agradecer a su familia y amigos que hayan podido facilitarnos el texto previo y las fotografías que ilustran esta pequeña nota de agradecimiento y respeto por la figura de un gran entomólogo y mejor persona.

Los Editores



Raul en su estudio, el 18 de febrero de 2025. Foto: David W. Gregg (Rhode Island Natural History Survey).