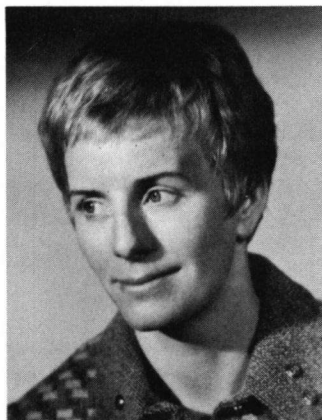


## OBITUARY

### EDDA GERLIND RUDOLPH

A short biography of Dr. E. RUDOLPH (born: Apr. 29, 1940, Glidice, Czechoslovakia; deceased: Aug. 18, 1978, Münster, German Federal Republic; ethologist: Assistant of Biology, Pädagog. Hochschule Münster) is presented.

To many odonatologists it will be a great shock to learn that EDDA RUDOLPH died in Münster, German Federal Republic, of the injuries she had received being thrown from her horse. Her death came at the early age of 38 years and cut an active and utmost enthusiastic life. Although herself specialized in a different field, she was extremely fond of dragonflies, with which she had become familiar through her husband, Dr. RAINER RUDOLPH. Many of us met them as participants in the SIO symposia at Lancaster, Great Britain, and Gainesville, Florida. Many of us will remember her keen passion on occasion of the field trips in Florida in collecting Odonata and Lepidoptera which, after having sufficiently furnished her husband, she generously distributed among those who were less successful in chasing.



She was vitally interested in animals from childhood and spent most time of her early years training horses and her father's hounds. After school she attended the University of Münster from 1961, where she passed examinations as a secondary school teacher of biology and sports. In 1969 she graduated in Zoology with an exceptionally thorough PhD thesis on the learning capacity for visual discriminanda of the European wild boar and domestic pigs of various breeds. Throughout the following years, until the very day of her fatal accident,

she gave herself fully to her studies of the ethology of the Suidae, concentrating on visual physiology, social behaviour and learning ability as influenced by stress. She was a remarkably gifted and patient experimenter, but it took her more than two years and she received more than one wound from biting animals before she was admitted as a member to, and adopted as a trainer of a herd of the extraordinary sensitive and irritable Collared Peccary in the Münster Zoo. She was rightly proud of being something like a leader of that herd, the mother Peccaries of which allowed her to tend the babies. Most results of that time consuming toil will have to remain unpublished, but at the time of her death she was preparing several manuscripts and had almost completed a textbook on ethology, written for secondary school courses. In two of her papers reference is made to the Odonata (1976, *Natur & Heimat, Münster* 36: 98-102; — 1978, *Mikrokosmos* 67: 192-195).



Fig. 2. Participants in the Post-Symposium Tour to northwest Florida, after the Gainesville meetings, in front of the Field Biological Station, Florida A + M University, Carr Lake, Santa Rosa Co.; August 8, 1977. From left to right: E.G. Rudolph, K.W. Knopf, S.W. Dunkle, B. Kiauta, R.D. Cuyler, R. Rudolph, C.E. Williams, E. Schmidt, and A. Sandhall. (Photo: J.M. Van Brink).

In 1971 she was appointed Assistant of Biology in the Faculty of Natural Science at the Pädagogische Hochschule Karlsruhe, and in 1973 at the Pädagogische Hochschule Münster. Her main concern was to impart her passionate love for the outdoors and affection for the living animal to her students. In 1978 she was about to visit those friends in the USA whom she had gained during the SIO meeting in Florida, to collect dragonflies there and, in the first place, to try Texas horses.

All those who knew her personally, in particular those who, like we, were

invited to her house, will remember her for her cheerful and really generous nature and her overwhelming hospitality. She will be sadly missed by many colleagues and friends.

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