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In Memory of Benjamin N. Raino (1934–2021)

Benjamin N. Raino, of Whitehall, passed away February 28, 2021, at the age of 87. Mr. Raino was an Adirondack outdoorsman, known for his expertise in trapping, hunting, and fishing. He was also an award-winning Master Carver and Arts Educator. His artwork is on display in museums and craft shops throughout Upstate New York. Mr. Raino was also a Woods Raconteur (French storyteller) and a member of The Liars Club. He was a featured storyteller at numerous county fairs and regional cultural events. Each of his carvings is a one-of-a-kind tribute to nature.

Mr. Raino was a lifelong resident of Whitehall, Washington County, New York.

After a tour in the United States Air Force, he earned a degree from New York University as a dental lab technician. He returned to Whitehall, started his own business, married his wife Carolyn J. Whalen, and had four children. He loved his hometown community and was active in local organizations and politics.

In his obituary, his family requested, in lieu of flowers, that “you support your local Artists and Craftsmen.”

—Todd DeGarmo
Founding Director
The Folklife Center at
Crandall Public Library



Above: Wood Carving: Moose & Wolves, 2005, Folk Art Collection, The Folklife Center at Crandall Public Library.

Below: Ben Raino. File photo from New York Folklore.



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