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Fellow Hat Island Community Members;

It is with a very sad heart that I must inform you that our ferry skipper Andy Liljestrand passed away in the early morning hours of Friday, May 2nd as a result of injuries he sustained in a fall from the deck of our new ferry, *Expeditions 3* on April 21st. From the time of his injury, to the end, he never regained consciousness nor showed more than the very basic neurological responses. Over the past few days he developed pneumonia and deteriorated very quickly. He had a living will that required that his wife Linda not allow extraordinary efforts to prolong his life.

It is still a mystery as to how this occurred. Anyone who knew Andy will attest that he was the most safety conscious person that we have ever known.

Andy died in service to the Hat Island Community. He was working Monday trying to do everything in his power to ensure that our new ferry was ready for the first half of our USCG inspection that occurred on Friday April 25th.

His wife Linda has suggested that those of you who have asked what you can do for the family could consider a donation in Andy's name either to your favorite charity or to the Seattle Fisherman's Memorial Scholarship fund. The fund provides financial assistance to dependent children of Seattle area fishermen who have lost their lives at sea.

Donations may be made directly to "Seattle Fisherman's Memorial Scholarship Fund" at PO Box 17356, Seattle, WA 98127. Be sure to note that the donation is in Andy's honor.

Details of funeral arrangements have not been finalized at this time. When they are they will be posted on our web site and will be forwarded via our e-mail notification system. The Island will conduct a memorial service on the Island in conjunction with our Memorial Day Flag ceremony. Details will be provided later.

Please keep Andy's family in your prayers,

Chuck