TEAL,
PETER EDMUND ALLAN, 62
Gainesville - Peter Teal, 62, Gainesville FL, died Feb. 11, 2015 after a brief but courageous battle with pneumonia. He was born in Ontario, Canada, to Wilfred Teal and Margaret L. (Peggy) Ferguson Teal.
Peter earned his BSc & MSc degrees in Biology from Univ. of Ottawa, and PhD from UF in Entomology. After completing a post-doctoral fellowship with the USDA in Gainesville, he took a position as Assistant Professor at the Univ. of Guelph, Ontario, Canada, teaching insect physiology and conducting research from 1983-86. In 1986, Peter returned to Gainesville to work as a scientist, then later, research leader at USDA-CMAVE in Gainesville until his death. He was also Acting Station Director at the Subtropical Horticulture Research Station in Miami.
Peter was a scientist, teacher, naturalist, and humanitarian. Since his research involved controlling insects that threaten our food production, his main goal was to find a way for his work to have the greatest, safest effect, so as many people could benefit as possible. During his career, he earned many awards, both within the government and, most importantly for him, from the agricultural community that he worked so closely with. He published extensively and held numerous patents in the area, helping to advance the field in this singularly important area of science.
Peter is survived by his wife Kathy Teal, son Evan Teal, both of Gainesville; brother David Teal, sisters Barbara Teal and Elizabeth Whiting of Ontario; parents-in-law Frank & Mary Towers, Brooker; sisters-in-law Jane King, Jacksonville; Anne Kuhns, Winter Garden; brother-in-law Frank Towers, Jr., Orlando; extended family, Jason Whiting & Marg Teal of Ontario; and special daughter Tredina Sheppard of Gainesville.