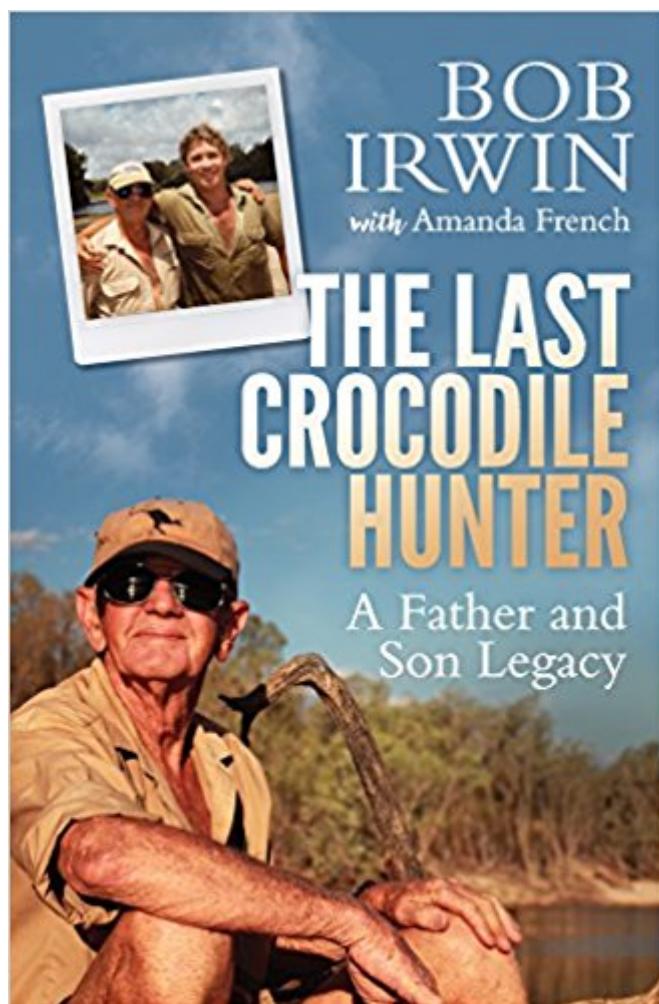


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# The Last Crocodile Hunter: A Father And Son Legacy



## Synopsis

Bob Irwin grew up in the Dandenong Ranges where his passion for wildlife was born. A near-death experience made him realize he needed to follow his dreams, so he and his wife Lyn moved their young family to Queensland and opened a wildlife park. The Irwin children grew up around the Beerwah Reptile & Wildlife Park, learned about the animals from their dad and cared for orphaned wildlife with their mother. This unique upbringing had a profound impact on Bob's son Steve, who became world-famous as the Crocodile Hunter, educator and wildlife warrior. Bob nearly didn't survive the sudden death of his adored wife Lyn, and it was Steve who helped him face life again. When the world tragically lost Steve to a freak diving accident, it wasn't just the animals that lost the best friend they ever had. Bob did too. Describing it as moving forward without a map, Bob spent many years burying himself in physical work, to cope with the loss of his son. It was the natural world and the animals within it that helped Bob to keep going, and since then he has continued to fight for Steve's legacy of protecting the wildlife, environment and planet on which our own survival depends. The Last Crocodile Hunter shows the heart and soul of a great Australian character, father and wildlife campaigner.

## Book Information

Paperback: 400 pages

Publisher: Allen & Unwin; Main edition (October 1, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1760292370

ISBN-13: 978-1760292379

Product Dimensions: 6 x 1.3 x 9.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.3 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #765,814 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #180 in Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Animals > Reptiles & Amphibians #593 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Professionals & Academics > Environmentalists & Naturalists #881 in Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Animals > Wildlife

## Customer Reviews

Bob Irwin is a celebrated Australian naturalist, animal conservationist, and a pioneering herpetologist. He was the founder of Australia Zoo in 1973. His work has had a major influence on wildlife management today. Bob is continuing his and Steve's legacy through the Bob Irwin

Wildlife & Conservation Foundation. Amanda French is a media and communications specialist across wildlife causes. She works with Bob Irwin to provide support to many Australian wildlife organizations through Bob's public advocacy.

fantastic father son special lifetime together shame bob doesn't see his grandchildren!!

The Dandenong Ranges in Victoria was where Bob Irwin grew up, and his love of the Australian wildlife and surrounding bush was in him from a very young age. As the years passed, Bob became a plumber and worked with his father. But eventually Bob knew he was no longer happy in his job, so after much discussion with his wife Lyn, in late 1972 they headed for Queensland with the children. The Beerwah Reptile and Fauna Park began on just three and a half acres of land; the hard work was done by the family as they slowly built it to where it could be opened to the public. The family survived on the bare minimum as neither Lyn nor Bob had an income, but they had a passionate vision of the future. Bob and Lyn's three children, Joy, Steve and Mandy, all shared their parents' love of wildlife and conservation, but Steve was a sponge, soaking up everything his father taught him and always wanting more. Bob took Steve on his camping trips when they were contracted to remove crocodiles from particular creeks and rivers. Steve loved it. The two of them had a unique relationship; not just father and son, they were best mates as well. As the Park expanded Australia Zoo was born. Steve's famous Crocoseum became a world-wide attraction. But all the while, the animals were the top priority. Teaching humans about the lives and habitats of the wild animals we live with was Steve and Bob's ultimate goal. And they made a difference. *The Last Crocodile Hunter* is the most comprehensive, interesting and heart wrenching memoir I have ever read. Emotional, profound and deeply moving, Bob Irwin's words and memories have come to life with the help of Amanda French, who travelled with Bob throughout the outback, visiting old sites he had been to with Steve, chatting and imparting it all around the campfire. A quiet man, never one for the spotlight, son Steve was the complete opposite. They complemented each other well. Now seventy seven years of age, Bob Irwin continues his fight to preserve the legacy left by Steve for the well-being of our planet, the environment but mostly for the animals on it. *The Last Crocodile Hunter* is a memoir I highly recommend, and one I feel anyone who has ever heard of Steve Irwin should read. I very much enjoyed the book.

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