



A warrior Biologist is asking for Help

ROBERTO PARDO ANGEL was one of my classmates when I was a Biology student at the Universidad del Valle in the city of Cali, Colombia. I always admired the way he transformed his physical limitation as a powerful source of energy and enthusiasm to achieve his dreams and goals. He became a Marine Biologist and his life and his career is one of the most inspiring testimonies to any human being. Achondroplasia and 97 centimeters in height never stopped him to perform as a student or as a professional as well. He earned the National Ecology Award Hernando Patino for his thesis about biogeography of echinoderms and he's considered as one of the most knowledgeable people about the sea star and sea urchin in the Colombian Pacific. Roberto worked as a forest ranger for 15 years in natural parks of Colombia such as Gorgona, Farallones and Santa Marta. Definitely he's a passionate ecologist and educator in life science. Many tourists knew him as a guide to watch the humpback whales. He also worked at the zoo and the natural science museum in the city of Cali. His life has seen plenty of adventures across the Colombian geography. His spirit and dedication have honored our profession and our planet.

Now Roberto is asking for help to pay for a replacement hip surgery because his medical insurance does not cover this kind of surgery. The medical expenses cost around U\$12,000. The surgery is scheduled for January 15, 2020. He truly appreciates the solidarity of the people.

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