

## Remembering Danny Platt

Danny Platt, a longtime commercial fisherman, commercial diver, fisheries representative, and “Captain Dan” of Noyo Harbor Tours, died peacefully on August 7, 2026, after living with the debilitating effects of ALS for the last few years. He was 66.

Danny worked in several different fisheries for roughly 40 years between Alaska and California,



Danny's boat, the F/V Zhivago.  
Photo credit: Ben Platt

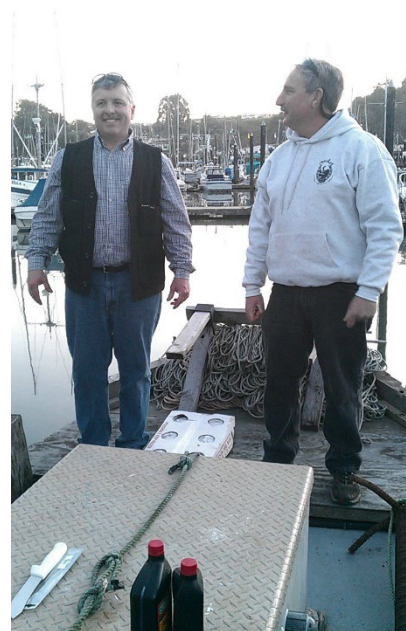
including urchin diving, salmon trolling, groundfish and crab fisheries, primarily aboard the F/V Zhivago. It was only later in life that he started Noyo Harbor Tours, eager to share his love of the local area while also looking toward the future by using an electric vessel for the tours.

To those who knew Danny, he was much more than a fisherman. He was a tireless advocate for the people, businesses and working waterfronts that make up commercial fishing communities. His life was deeply connected to the ocean and to the people who depend upon it, and he devoted himself to

keeping those connections strong.

Danny was one of the longest serving members on the Pacific Fishery Management Council's (PFMC) Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP), representing the Open Access fleet. He brought to the table the practical knowledge and perspective of someone who understood commercial fishing from the deck up and recognized the interconnectedness between salmon, groundfish and other fisheries. He was a strong and persistent supporter of fisheries and of maintaining opportunities for fishermen to make a living on the water. His advocacy included pursuing an exempted fishing permit (EFP) for non-bottom contact hook-and-line gear in the Non-trawl Rockfish Conservation Area through the Council, reflecting his willingness to look for innovative ways to keep fishermen working, obtain scientific data and keep fisheries viable. His work, in part, contributed to the implementation of Amendment 32 of the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan.

But Danny's commitment to fisheries was never simply about policy. It was personal. He cared deeply about his local fleet and the Noyo Harbor community, and he understood that a fishing harbor is more than boats and docks – it's a network of families, businesses, fishermen, processors, workers and friends whose lives are intertwined with the sea. He served on the Noyo Harbor Commission from 2021 until his retirement. The Commission noted Danny brought steady leadership and real-world experience to the position.



Former PFMC staff officer John DeVore (left) and Danny Platt talk about fisheries aboard the F/V Zhivago in March 2021.

Through his work in fisheries and his many years around Noyo Harbor, Danny developed an extraordinary network of friendships and professional relationships. He had a way of bringing people together, sharing a story, lending a hand, and making a connection that lasted. The relationships he built extended far beyond the harbor. He reached fishermen, fisheries managers, scientists, regulators, community members and others – most anyone who shared his love of the ocean and his concern for the future of fishing.

Danny worked hard, was renowned for his honesty and helpfulness, and remembered as a sweet, all-around good guy. He was also a proud father, brother, son and friend, eager to share photos of his family. Those qualities were evident to the people closest to him as well as to the many members of the fishing community who knew they could count on him.

His legacy can be seen in the people he helped, the fisheries he fought for, the harbor he cared so deeply about, and the friendships he made along the way. Danny understood that the strength of a fishing community comes from people willing to show up, speak up, and stand beside one another. He did all three.



**DAN PLATT**

February 5, 1960 - August 7, 2026

**AKA Diver Dan and Captain Dan of Noyo Harbor Tours**

Commercial Fisherman, Commercial Diver, Fisheries Representative,

Loving Dad, Brother, Son, Proud Papa, Friend, Devoted Christian,

Hard working, Honest, Helpful, "a Good Guy"

Died Peacefully after enduring the debilitating stages  
of ALS for several years

**CELEBRATION OF LIFE**

**Sunday November 1, 2026 1 PM**

**NOYO HARBOR, S Harbor Drive, Fort Bragg**

Bring Potluck, Memories, Tall Tales, Friendship, and Love

**Donations may be made in his honor to:**

**ALS Network, P O Box 7082, Woodland Hills, Ca 91365**

**Noyo Women For Fisheries (NWFF) Scholarship Fund,**

**P O Box 1037, Fort Bragg, CA 95437**