

Bob Cary's office showcased at Ely-Winton Historical Society

It's all there, his desk, his hand-knit sweater draped over the back of his chair, his typewriter ready for action. Bob Cary might have simply left the room for a moment but from the looks of things he's coming right back.

In the three years since Cary died, his daughter Barbara Hall has searched for a place in which to showcase her father. When she approached the Ely-Winton Historical Society about space in which to set up her father's home office, the board felt it was a good fit and so construction of a space in which to place his desk, drawing table, his bookshelves and the implements of daily life began.

It's all there, including the last painting Bob ever worked on, left just as it was when he was no more.

Bob was a lifetime angler, hunter, canoe camper, cross-country ski racer, wonderful story teller and a friend to many. He lived a life full of the outdoors, writing and art. Some people are not content to just live their lives, but in their living, make a contribution to the people, communities and world around them.

He was always doing something: writing, drawing, painting, skiing, participating, talking, drumming, laughing or exploring. He helped organize the Ely



Area Canoe Outfitters Association, taught wilderness guiding classes and was an advisor at the Northern Tier High Adventure Scout Base on Moose Lake.

In 1974, Bob became the editor of the Ely Echo which featured his column Birdshot and Backlashes where many local issues were covered with perception and wit. During his writing career he was also a featured columnist for the Senior Reporter in Duluth, and free-

lanced articles to Outdoor Life, Field and Stream, Sports Afield, Minnesota Sportsman, Travel, Minnesota Monthly, Boundary Waters Journal, the Chicago Tribune, the Wall Street Journal and many other publications. He was a generous supporter of the arts in Ely. He was a member of Northern Lakes Arts Association and he painted two murals in downtown Ely, "Camp Scene" commissioned by Ely Greenstone Public Arts, which can be

viewed in the Zup's Food Market parking lot off of Sheridan. Another, "Windigo," can be viewed on the wall next to WELY radio station building on Chapman Street.

The Ely-Winton Historical Society museum is located in the Fine Arts Building of Vermilion Community College. The public is invited to come and visit this display any weekday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission fee.