







## This Man Saved a Dying Crocodile and They Stayed Best Friends for Over 20 Years

What's the most dangerous pet you've ever had? Whatever it is, it sure doesn't even come close to a five-meter, 500-kilogram crocodile!

*Adam C. Smith Photography*



Image credit: Adam C. Smith Photography

Yet, this is exactly the pet this Costa Rica man, Gilberto Shedden, ended up with. He swam with the gigantic and scary-looking crocodile called Pocho in the river everyday – for over 20 years.

Shedden, a fisherman, tour guide, and naturalist from Siquirres, Limón Province, Costa Rica, had found Pocho dying on the banks of the local Reventazón River, in 1989. Upon closer examination, he discovered that the crocodile had been shot in the head through the left eye (as it turns out, by a local cattle farmer, enraged by the animal preying on his herd of cows).

