

Peter Daniel Grundfossen

October 5, 1935 ~ April 5, 2025

Dear Cathryn, Thank you so much for giving me this opportunity to visit with such an amazing gentleman. I'm so blessed to have know him! My Saturday's won't be the same■ If ever you need someone to talk to you can always reach out to Serena Hospice of Utah.

- Nancy volunteer for Hospice for Utah

As you walk thru life you sometimes have the privilege to meet a man as Peter I thank him as a friend Does not matter we might be of opposing views we had a comarady His passing leaves a man of importance gone from us May he be with God

- Larry Wayne Gatlin

Peter was a happy , sincere, effective , caring public servant . As the Lobbyist for The Housing Authority of Portland and for the Association of Oregon Housing Authorities He succeeded in passing legislation to house no and low income people . As the State and the nation were in a.recession at that time no other new social programs were funded . The cause was good and the success was Peters. Thank you Peter .

- Donald E Clark

Cathyrn Collis This is my second attempt in sending you a note ----- if only I could master the computer!!!!! Peter was such a special guy - intelligent, honest, caring, so many words to describe him.' Our friendship goes back to PSU in 1962 - worked with/for Peter - he was in my wedding party in 1963 and we have kept an active communication through the years - including his occasional visits to Portland. I remember he called me several months ago from the nursing home. I will miss him so much. One of a kind. Will there be any gathering in Portland in memory of Peter? I believe he has one son in the area. I'd like to reach out to him (Did he work at Safeway?). So many memories and loved his humor. God bless him. David Rianda djrianda@comcast.net 0r 503-312-3941

- David Rianda

I’m so sorry for your loss. I do think of you from time to time. We did have fun in the past All I can say having lost my husband is go gently on yourself and be kind to yourself. My best wishes for healing, Cathy Hitchcock

- Cathy Hitchcock

Dear Cathryn, I was so sad to read in today’s Sunday Oregon of Peter’s passing. I remember Peter so clearly from fun Book Club days with you, Cathy Hitchcock and Joe Henery. Peter was just unforgettable with his big smile, warmest outgoing friendly personality and quick laugh. So much positive energy! One of those rare people that you like instantly. What a great guy and you two were so good, so loving together. The obituary was so well written, warm, loving and really captured Peter’s outlook and ready to go personality. Some things I knew about him, but I didn’t realize or know the extent of his adventures and all he did professionally. What a great guy! He will be so missed, I’m sure by so many, most of all you and for that my heart goes out to you. Better days do come, but I’m holding you in my thoughts and heart and send healing thoughts and love to you at this sad time. I know you have family around in Salt Lake City, but if you ever come to Portland, I would love to see you. If you have old emails, you probably have mine and please do reach out to a “bookie” friend. I am an active member at First Unitarian, Portland, and will make a donation in Peter’s honor to First Church and also to one of the charities suggested in the obituary.

- Sue Harvey

I was a student at PSU (then PSC) when Pete worked in Student Services. I had a work-study job as a receptionist in the Student Services Office. I completely enjoyed working with Pete! Somebody decided that PSC Student Body Officers (I was the Chair of Social Activities & and Student Body Vice President) & Student Services staff needed to go to Cedar City, Utah to experience T-groups. It was my first plane ride! At some point, we had to check in by name, and as the clerk staggered through our last names Grundfossen, (Mae) Ouchida, (Paul) Pinegar and (me) Oberlander, we thought our names were pretty hilarious as a bundle. I have not spoken with Pete in a long while; the last time was a 1620 Club meeting and Pete was on Zoom. I am so sorry to hear of his passing and want his family & friends to know that I thought he was a special person. My life was changed by the T-group experience

- Pat (Oberlander) Evenson-Brady

I am a long-time (and old!) legal aid lawyer in Eugene, Oregon. In 1989 I began lobbying the Oregon legislature on behalf of low-income tenants, something I still do. That meant, of course, that I worked closely with the lobbyist for Oregon housing authorities, Peter. And we worked together to create the Oregon Affordable Housing Trust Fund. While we sometimes disagreed, I always knew that Peter was a person with a good heart, who cared deeply about affordable housing, long before it became such an important public issue. We stayed in touch for a couple of years after he retired and moved to Utah. I saw him maybe twice upon return trips to Portland. And I knew he went to Florida to campaign for Al Gore. As others have noted, he was a generous and sweet soul.

- John VanLandingham

I'm sorry that the obituary did not mention the couple of years of teaching that Pete did at Centennial High School in Gresham, Oregon. That is where I met him ... as my teacher of world history (and advisor to the student government, helping start traditions at that brand new school). He made us realize that all those events and cultures were made by real people, with everyday lives like each of us. He was also the first person who repeated told us to "question authority" - not something east Multnomah County was used to in 1959. He loved politics and

my mother (Betty Roberts) and stepdad (Frank Roberts) were very active in Democratic grass roots activities and frequently haranguing the Legislature, so Pete was often at our house for strategy meetings and celebrations. (He spoke of those days at my mother's celebration of life in 2011.) He was one of my favorite teachers and "adults" in my life. His obituary mentions his "playful approach" to life - that certainly rings true for the person I knew, and continued to know as friend in later year. That great big smile that says "I'm so glad you're here, now what can we do that's fun?!"

- Dian Rice Odell

Its tuff I know. Hopefully you made some good memories.

- Jennifer Smith

Sending you my best with prayers for the loss of your dad. He had a full life and I am glad you were able create great new memories over the past few years.. Positve thoughts during this time for you and your family

- Trish Dutton

What an honorable man who gave so much to society! I am blessed to have met your son, Doug. I now see how he became a great man!Rest in peace knowing that you gave so much!

- Terry Shane-Dunn

Cathryn, How I wish I could see you again. Nothing I can say will make this easier. But the gifts you gave me were many. I pass them on. I think of you. Linda Morris

- Linda Morris

Cathryn, I am so sorry for your loss. My heart goes out to you and your family. In deepest sympathy.

- Amy Chomowicz