



Greg Peters

September 24, 1962 - August 2, 2013

A Celebration of Life will be held Saturday, August 10, 2013 for Greg Peters, acclaimed Louisiana cartoonist and writer, who died on Friday, August 2 at New Orleans' Ochsner Medical Center. He was 50 years old. The ceremony will take place at 2 PM at Martin & Castille Funeral Home, Southside location, in Lafayette.

Mr. Peters' survivors include his sons, Grey Wilder Peters and Magnus Peters; his parents, Reginald Peters and the former Kay Kent; his partner, Eileen Loh; former wife, Sandra Scarce; aunt, Sharon Strong; and mother-in-law, Shirley Romero Scarce.

Mr. Peters was born on Sept. 24, 1962, in Marquette, MI. He graduated in 1980 from Marquette Senior High School, where he was a member of the debate team. He earned two degrees from Northern Michigan University: a bachelor's degree in psychology in 1985, and a master's degree in English in 1990. Peters was a doctoral fellow (ABD) in the English/ Creative Writing program at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

His powerhouse intellect was the envy of his friends and fans. When it came to the humanities - particularly literature, philosophy, art, religion, history, music, politics, and current events - Mr. Peters' knowledge was staggering. In conversation and writing, he could effortlessly veer from subjects as disparate as Buddhism and Black Flag, Dadaism and Descartes, PACs and post-structuralism, Shakespeare and The Simpsons. He funneled that knowledge into a worldview that championed people in need, and castigated those who misused power or authority, causing others to suffer as a result. (His compassion was matched by his humility and exactitude; Mr. Peters would hate the praise and generalizations in this obituary.)

After moving to Louisiana in 1990 to study at UL, Mr. Peters became a vital and eminently respected member of the state's publishing industry. For more than two decades, he was a graphic designer, cartoonist, and writer for newspapers and publications including Gambit Weekly, The Independent Weekly, and the Times of Acadiana. He was also featured in, and commissioned by, the national publications Fortune and The Chicago

Reader. His work earned multiple awards from The Association of Alternative Newsweeklies, The Louisiana Press Association, and the New Orleans Press Club.

The bulk of those honors were for “Suspect Device,” Mr. Peters’ brilliant comic strip. “Suspect Device” juxtaposed innocuous clip art and stock images with whiplash-funny humor and satire. He hated nothing more than hypocrisy, and double-talking politicians were the most frequent targets of his scathing commentaries. Loyal to no political party, Peters lampooned Republicans and Democrats alike, as well as Independents. Woe to the public figure caught lying or doing something offensive or stupid: they became fodder for “Suspect Device,” skewered and often re-imagined in fantastical worlds populated by historical figures, cartoon characters, or farm animals. (Privately, Mr. Peters’ caustic and wicked wit was legendary.)

“Suspect Device” was praised and anthologized in the book *Attitude 2: The New Subversive Alternative Cartoonists*, resulting in exhibits of Mr. Peters’ work in New York City and Italy. The comic strip ran from 1996-2010. “Snake Oil,” Mr. Peters’ bi-weekly cartoon that mirrored the aesthetic approach of “Suspect Device,” ran in Lafayette’s *Independent Weekly* from 2003-2008.

Peters’ design work was also coveted. In addition to his graphics work for the above publications and various businesses, he worked as a designer for LSU Press, and created posters for the annual Rising Tide conference in New Orleans. The sixth incarnation of the conference poster featured an original poem written by Mr. Peters, “Cheval Noir.” His Rising Tide work was an extension of his extensive blogging. Peters was an early user and advocate of blogs - and used the medium to excoriate pre- and post-Katrina failures.

Mr. Peters spent a year in Egypt in the early 90s, teaching English as a Second Language for the U.S. Consulate General in Alexandria. In recent years he revisited his Midwestern roots, performing in musical reunions of the bands Borax and Voodoo Lawnmowers with his Ann Arbor friends.

After residing in Lafayette for nearly two decades, Mr. Peters moved to New Orleans for the last 3 1/2 years of his life. He loved the Crescent City and it treated him well. When he wasn’t working as the Technical Editor/Graphic Designer for Geocent LLC, he could be found listening to Dropkick Murphys or Social Distortion at House of Blues, watching Saints games at Vaughan’s in the Bywater, drinking at Molly’s in the French Quarter or Mimi’s in the Marigny, savoring a meal at Serendipity or The Joint, having coffee at Envie, prowling every neighborhood for his new favorite Asian or African restaurant, and rabble-rousing with friends and family.

Mr. Peters had a congenital heart defect. If he felt he was living on borrowed time, he never showed it. Even when he was feeling poorly, he never complained or acted the martyr. He cherished his family - especially his sons Grey Wilder and Magnus, whom he taught well. He took particular pride in their academic accomplishments, and in Grey Wilder's musicianship and Magnus' artistic abilities. His devotion, perseverance, and zest for life were inspiring.

Mr. Peters passed away surrounded by family and friends who loved him deeply.

The family requests that visitation be observed in Martin & Castille's Southside location, 600 E. Farrell Rd., on Saturday, Aug. 10 from 1 PM to service time. The 2 PM service will be held in Martin & Castille's La Fleur de Lis Chapel.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to an educational trust fund established for Greg Peters' sons. Account details are pending. Alternatively, memorial contributions may be made in Greg Peters' name to: Donate Life America, 701 East Byrd Street, 16th Floor, Richmond, VA 23219.

View the obituary and guestbook online at <http://www.mourning.com>

Martin & Castille-SOUTHSIDE-600 E. Farrel Rd., Lafayette, LA 70508, 337-984-2811

Events

AUG **Visitation** 01:00PM - 02:00PM

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Martin & Castille Funeral Home - Southside Location
600 East Farrel Rd., Lafayette, LA, US, 70508

AUG **Service** 02:00PM - 03:00PM

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Martin & Castille's La Fleur de Lis Chapel
600 E. Farrel Road, Lafayette, LA, US, 70508

Comments



“ Reg, so sorry to see where you lost your son. My prayers are with you and your wife. Rodney, my son lost his wife about the same time, so we can imagine what you are going through. I had only met your son once when he was very young. I can tell He excelled through out his life time.

God bless,
Sissy Bug and Family

Mary Ellen Sherrell - May 16, 2016 at 07:35 PM



“ Greg Peters, my friend since sixth grade - 39 years 11 months now, but who's counting? That's the longest-standing continuing friendship of my life. What made it special, besides the fact that Greg was one hell of a great person (smart, funny, talented, cynical, kind, etc.), is that we got to know each other right at the time we were (perhaps precociously, I don't know and it hardly matters now) putting away childish things and discovering the ideas and attitudes, the art and literature and music, that would help us through life - a life that, for Greg, turned out to be far, far too brief. Because of that, he ranked high among the most influential people I've known. Time hasn't knocked him out of that circle. It never will. I miss you already, pal, and I know I'm hardly alone in that. I'll see you on the flip side. My deepest condolences to his family and all of his friends.

tom hyslop jr - August 15, 2013 at 10:28 PM



“ Dear Peters family, Please accept my deepest sympathy for the loss of your dear loved one. It seems no greater sadness is felt than when someone so dear to us is loss. May you find comfort in your memories and draw strength from a promise God has provided which gives the hope of someday being reunited with your beloved Greg (John 5:28,29). This promised future is one that will be filled with great joy because it will include perfect health and everlasting life on a paradise earth where "the former things have passed away" (Rev. 21:4, Psalms 37:29). May you during this most difficult time find some comfort in knowing that God does care and He does hear our cries. Please accept my most sincere condolences.

Dan - August 12, 2013 at 06:18 AM



“ Reg & Kay,
We were so sorry to read about your son, Greg. Our prayers and thoughts are with you both. He was a very talented individual.
Our best, Clayton & Anita Johns

Anita Johns - August 11, 2013 at 01:40 PM



“ Reg & Kay, our deepest sympathy to you both on the passing of your son, Greg. We will keep you and Greg's family close in thought and prayer. David & Nancy Skoog

Nancy & David Skoog - August 11, 2013 at 08:38 AM



“ Hello cousin Kay-Kay and Reg. Nancy and I are so saddened to hear of Greg's passing. You will both be in our hearts and prayers during this very sad time. Nancy and I have been so busy the last few days because we just had a funeral for her mother this afternoon. Gram was ninety one. We just got the Mining Journal out of the box as we were coming in the house. What a handsome lad he was. Reg and Greg, two peas in a pot. He will surely be missed. Lets make contact soon. Love you guys, Lani and Nancy

Lani & Nancy Duquette - August 09, 2013 at 11:39 PM



“ I wish I had had the chance to know Greg better. The times that I spent with him, he used his powerful intellect to make me laugh and think. It doesn't get any better than that. The world has lost a rare and unique spirit. I take heart in seeing so much of him in his boys.

Ken Cooper - August 09, 2013 at 09:21 PM



“ Oh my goodness how truly unbelievable. It seems like yesterday Greg & I were in Hedgcock Fieldhouse selling tickets to sell out crowds for the MHSAA boys basketball tournaments. We had so much fun together and I will never forget those times. To my wonderful, kind second mom Kay: I love you and wish I could be there for you. I'm so sorry that you had to say goodbye to your son. Please know that both Karl & I love you very, very much and we wish we could be there for you tomorrow to hold you in our arms.

Joan & Karl Mulder - August 09, 2013 at 08:31 PM



“ My memories of Greg are of him as a boy in grade school, drawing while his Mom and I worked late in Pierce Hall during NMU's registration crunch. His tribute reveals a wonderful life built with many beautiful moments. My heartfelt condolences to Kay and Reg, his sons, and all who loved him. I think of you so often, Kay, and hold our times together very close to my heart. Please accept my virtual hug.

Sharon Zablocki - August 09, 2013 at 07:43 PM



“ your physical heart may have failed, but your real heart beats on.
rest in peace greg.

Barry Schorfhaar - August 09, 2013 at 05:31 PM



“ Thoughts and prayers to the boys, the family and close friends. He will be missed. He just loved the bands. A true Artists memory never forgotten.
Gods Peace Wendee Peterson

wendee peterson - August 09, 2013 at 04:41 PM



“ My heart goes out to my "momma Kay" - holding you close in thought and prayer.
Bev

Beverley Humpula - August 09, 2013 at 02:22 PM



“ We'll miss you.

Bill Vajda - August 09, 2013 at 10:45 AM



“ I miss you so much.

Eileen Loh - August 08, 2013 at 10:29 AM



“ Sharon Strong is following this tribute.

Sharon Strong - August 06, 2013 at 07:04 PM



“ Greg was my neighbor for many years and I never heard an unkind word from him. My sincere and heartfelt condolences to to Sandra, his sons and his parents.
Gene Broussard

Gene Broussard - August 05, 2013 at 03:05 AM