

Peter Ten Broeck Beneville

Died: May 18, 1998

Pete died at age 59 on Monday, May 18, 1998, at St. Anthony's Hospital North near Denver. The Denver newspaper reporting his death referred to him as an international banker.

Although The Green Book said he was from Mountain Lakes, New Jersey, Pete went to American High School in Tokyo, Japan. There he was president of the student council, editor-in-chief of the school newspaper, senior editor of the yearbook, and in the National Honor Society.

His education in Japan must have left a significant impact on him. Our classmate Tom Conger wrote in a "WWW" entry after Pete's death that Pete "was such a japanophile I finally gave him a Happi coat his junior year." (Wikipedia says a Happi Coat is a traditional Japanese straight-sleeved coat, usually made of indigo or brown cotton, often imprinted with a crest.)

Pete's career followed not a path, but a trajectory.

At Dartmouth he was involved in student government (the undergraduate and inter-dormitory councils), crew for his first three years, A.F.R.O.T.C. for the first two, and the Newman Club for all four. He had majored in International Relations at Dartmouth, and as he wrote in 1986 for our 25th Reunion Yearbook, after graduation "did exactly what I thought I wanted to do — become a Foreign Service Officer." That took him to Paris, Washington, Conakry in Guinea, and Dakar in Senegal, he said. He got married.

But then, realizing that "I would rather be a participant in events than an observer of them," Pete made a switch from the foreign service to banking, and spent 10 years with Citibank, working in Lebanon, Morocco, Mauritius, Senegal, and the Ivory Coast.

"While all of this was worthwhile," he reflected in 1986, "I realized that I was drifting out of the mainstream of events both professionally and personally. Only during this period did I begin to really know myself, and to realize that I was in many ways not doing with my life what I might have."

After a five year stint in London, he took another job in Denver (the area listed as his home in The Aegis) around 1986, a move about which he then wrote that "the few months since our return have been a new experience and I am still not totally comfortable. That will come with time just as learning to be comfortable in my own skin has come with time."

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Pete “was a quiet guy, but deep,” says Tom Conger. The Denver newspaper obituary reported that his hobbies included collecting antiques, traveling, and gardening, and that he was a member of the Dartmouth Alumni Club, Democratic National Committee, the Alexander Foundation, and the Stonewall Dignity Church.

Pete left behind a daughter, Alexandra, and a son, Michael.