

## **Peter James Holland**

Died: September 16, 1986

Following a long illness, Pete died of cancer at the age of 47 on Tuesday, September 16, 1986.

Though his family home was in West Vancouver, British Columbia, Pete went to Kimball Union Academy (KUA) in Meriden, New Hampshire, not far from Dartmouth. He graduated from there magna cum laude, and was on the student newspaper, the yearbook, and in the band.

At Dartmouth, he majored in English, was in the glee club all four years (serving as its treasurer his senior year), and sang with the elite nine-member singing group then known as the "Injunaires," but which by the time of his death had been re-named "The Dartmouth Aires."

Pete's Dartmouth roommate their freshman and sophomore years (and also a Kimball Union Academy graduate) was Bob Jackson. In a memorial statement following Pete's death, Bob remembered Pete as "a very intellectual and talented person," and recalled his friend's "deep baritone voice" as playing a large role in Pete's singing activities, at KUA and at Dartmouth. Pete sang in choirs all his life.

After graduation, Pete earned an MALS degree (Master of Arts in Liberal Studies) from Dartmouth. He then became an English teacher, first at Woodstock Country School in Vermont, and then at KUA, where he remained until his death. His roommate Bob Jackson recalls that his own daughter had gone to KUA and had Pete as one of her teachers, speaking of Pete "as a highly talented and committed teacher of English."

On a Dartmouth alumni survey form completed almost one year before he died, Pete described his occupation as "teaching children to read, write, and think so they can succeed at Dartmouth and other places."

In another context, Pete wrote a reply to an Alumni magazine letter-writer in May 1969, who was critical of what he called "immature" students on campus who did anything they thought they could get away with (it was during the days of the anti-war movement and of student unrest on campuses across the country).

Pete responded, saying the letter-writer's comments were "ridiculous." Pete said, "I have worked very closely for seven years with 'the immature.' I have seen that, treated as people and with the respect than any human being deserves, the young respond with maturity and responsibility."

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After Pete died, Bob wrote, “I greatly enjoyed visiting with Peter whenever I went to see my daughter, and was grieved by his very sad death from cancer in 1986. I still miss him; he was a wonderful friend.”

Pete got married in January 1986 and died eight months later. The couple had eight stepchildren.