



Peter Fatovich

July 1, 1930 - May 23, 2015

Peter A. Fatovich of Jupiter, Fla passed away peacefully on May 23, 2015, surrounded by his loving family following a very brief illness.

Born July 1, 1930, he spent his childhood with parents Joseph and Tomica and brother Joe in Hoboken, NJ. In the late 1930's they returned to their native Yugoslavia amidst World War II, where he gained lessons which would remain with him throughout his life. Peter would often say he was educated in Europe.

After returning to Hoboken in 1946 he worked a variety of jobs to help support his family. With little formal education, he was a smart, bright, well versed man fluent in 6 languages. Peter could converse knowledgably on a myriad of subjects, especially politics, history, religion and world and current events. He always kept his Dictionary and Thesaurus close by so he could understand the meaning and origin of each word.

He enlisted in the Army near the end of the Korean conflict and received an Honorable Discharge.

He married his wife Mary Lou in 1959 at St. Malachy's Church in New York City. They made their family home in Crestwood, NY for 30 years.

Peter began his career in New York City teaching accordion lessons, a passion that would remain with him for the entirety of his life.

His career as an Associate Director and Director in the television industry spanned 4 decades beginning in 1959. His credits at NBC are far too numerous to mention, but include The Jack Paar Show, The Tonight Show

with Johnny Carson, The Orange Bowl Parade, numerous news and special events, Saturday Night Live, and Late Night with David Letterman. In 1993 Peter transitioned to CBS as The Associate Director of The Late Show with David Letterman. Even after retirement, he frequently ventured from Florida to NYC to visit with colleagues and mentor those following in his footsteps. He was a member of The Directors Guild of America and The Screen Actors Guild. He was the recipient of numerous Emmy awards, a George Foster Peabody Broadcasting Award, and several other recognitions within the television and broadcasting industries.

Blessed to be part of such a renowned industry, Peter never forgot his roots or abandoned his humble beginnings.

He lived the last 17 years of his life in the warmth of his wonderful Jupiter community in constant contact with his NBC and Letterman Show family and friends who meant the world to him.

He is survived by his loving daughter, Alexandra, (Mandy) and her husband Robert Mahoney; his 7 adored grandchildren: Alex Grosvenor, Caitlin Mahoney, Olivia Grosvenor, Meaghan (Mimi) Mahoney, Luke Grosvenor, Robbie Mahoney, and Hunter Grosvenor. Peter's unconditional love for his family was evident in the way he spoke about each with the utmost pride. He was predeceased by his wife, Mary Lou (Furst) and his son Peter.

Peter was the type of person who could light up any room that he walked into with his infectious smile and most genuine laugh. Everyone he came in contact with was greeted "Hello my friend", or "HIYA" because everyone truly was a friend to him. He lifted spirits with his endless stories. He will be missed.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00 AM with a receiving at 9:15 on Saturday, May 30th at St. Malachy's – The Actors Chapel, located at 239 West 49th Street, New York, NY.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, 120 Wall Street, New York, NY 10005. (www.afsp.org), or The American Cancer Society.

Tribute Wall



“ *Peter Fatovich*

October 22, 2023 at 10:17 AM



“ *Peter came into my video production studio in Tequesta one afternoon about 2009. I was fascinated to meet him, recalling seeing several of his appearances on David Letterman. He was very kind, and we talked for quite a while after I told him I had been on Letterman once in 2004.*

Rick Bennette - August 06, 2023 at 04:34 AM



“ *Dear wonderful Peter,
He was one of a kind! I first met him working on the Orange Bowl in 1981, and was agog! Such a character - he had stories, stories, stories.... and he was never boring. He made me laugh.*

We continued to work together the first 3 years of Late Night. I got such a kick out of Peter - he knew what he was doing, did it well and had a good time while doing it. Always a funny quip or comment - he made work fun. But when work was done, Peter looked forward to heading home to be with Mary Lou.

Surprisingly, many years later, we both ended up in Jupiter, FL and visited from time to time. He still made me laugh. I will miss his spirit and his calls and his unique personality. he lived life well. Like i said one of a kind! Peter, we will all miss you.

xx Darcy

Darcy Hettrich - Jupiter, FL - friend - June 01, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PC

“ I worked with Pete for many years at NBC. He always had a smile on his face and was a pleasure to know. Could he be cantankerous? yes. Sarcastic? yes. Funny? absolutely. To know Pete was to love Pete. My sincerest condolences to his family and all his friends. Bless you, Pete.

Patty MacDougall - new york, NY - friend and former co-worker - May 29, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AB

“ I first worked on production locations with Peter in 1973 on the "GO" shows and "Muggsy" and subsequently on numerous other varied NBC productions. He always brought smiles and laughter to all with his gifted in-depth storytelling and memories of NBC people, places and things. He certainly had a book in him based on those entertaining and interesting stories, which he would relay to me often after he moved to Jupiter;and in response I would laughingly tell him that I've already heard those same stories countless times before! RIP my dear friend Peter.

Aavo Koiv - Jupiter, FL - Old friend and NBC buddy - May 28, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ He was a great story teller and just a marvelous man to talk to. A very special man whose memory will be a blessing to all that knew him however briefly. Mandy, Robert, Caitin, Mim and Robbie I am so sorry for your loss

John Donohue - Cohasset, MA - May 28, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ He was a good,kind,friendly man who always helped to bring a smile to your face. He had a great love for his personal family and his professional "Letterman" family. His grandchildren brought him great pride and joy. His friends in Florida will miss him,his smile ,his humor." Good Night Sweet Prince".i will always remember him in my prayers.

Dolores V Visich - Jupiter, FL - old friend - May 27, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ Greetings from the "Old Folks Home" in Yorktown where I am with my Mother Lucille... Heard the news from Rita Dillon while driving here from Pittsburgh... Uncanny, was recently speaking of Peter Fatovich while watching Good Morning America's segment with David Letterman -- and remember your family and our friends from Crestwood fondly... We send our love and condolences... My mother just remembered time spent at Leewood -- all the best to you and yours...

Bobby Johnson - Crestwood, NY - Family Friends - May 27, 2015 at 12:00 AM