Peter Dawes

June 29, 1941 - February 26, 2023

Peter Dawes, 81, of North Tonawanda, New York passed away February 26, 2023.

Peter leaves as his legacy two daughters: Patricia (James) Dawes-Doohan and Deborah (Joseph) Wachowicz; and five grandchildren: Ryan, Kristen, Victoria, Samantha, and Joseph Jr.

He also leaves to cherish his memory brothers and sisters: Katherine (Richard) Calorusso, Michael (Carol), Charles (Tae Sun), Anne (late Steven) Zielski; his favorite cousin Gregory Rohrdanz; many loving nieces and nephews and his adoring companion Virginia Goldfus.

Peter was preceded in death by his loving wife Donna M., (nee Hertel), his parents Arthur and Elizabeth Beatrice (nee Davignon) and his sister Nancy (late Joseph) Molnar.

Peter was a commercial pilot and flight instructor at Prior Aviation for more than 30 years. Aviation was his passion. He earned the F.A.A. Gold Seal and flew everything from Cubs to Jets. He was an amateur HAM radio operator (call sign WA2LPW), National Weather Service SKYWARN Advanced Weather Spotter and charter member of the Brothers of the Wind.

Peter was one of a kind and will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Visitation will be at Wattengel Funeral Home, 533 Meadow Drive, North Tonawanda on Thursday, March 16, from 4 to 7 p.m. where services will follow at 7 p.m. Private burial will be at Mt. Olivet Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to American Heart Association.

Cemetery Details

Mount Olivet Cemetery

4000 Elmwood Avenue
Town Tonawanda, NY 14120

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR **16**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Wattengel Funeral Home (Meadow Drive)
533 Meadow Drive
North Tonawanda, NY 14120
(716) 693-0440
wattengelfh@gmail.com
https://www.wattengel.com

Services

MAR **16**. 7:00 PM (ET)

Wattengel Funeral Home (Meadow Drive)
533 Meadow Drive
North Tonawanda, NY 14120
(716) 693-0440
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Tribute Wall

140 files added to the album LifeTributes

Wattengel Funeral Home - March 16, 2023 at 12:05 PM

JT

My husband and I both took pilot lessons from Peter. My husband is a pilot now. I'm not. I have no sense of direction and when Peter told me to go north, I had no idea which way to turn. So I made a right. Peter very gently said, "Go north." So I made another right. I figured sooner or later, I'd be headed north. Then when we were up in the air, Peter intentionally stalled the plane and told me to get us out of it. I panicked. He very gently talked me through it. Peter never said it, but I knew, I was not pilot material.
Peter worked very hard to get a Bocce court in Pendleton. He carefully explained the rules to the people that showed up. When we'd throw the ball and be way off, Peter said, "Well.l.l.l.l.l. you might want to stand here and throw the ball." Then when you would throw the ball and still miss the mark, Peter would say, "You're getting it." Always an encouraging remark, always.
Now you are flying high in your own plane. You are missed.
Joanna and Paul Torreano

Joanna Torreano - March 15, 2023 at 07:47 AM

RA

Mike and Family, so sorry for your loss, remember all the memories you had with him 73's my friend from K2MNC (Bob Allard)

Robert Allard - March 13, 2023 at 04:20 PM

Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Peter Dawes.

March 12, 2023 at 12:31 PM

JS

Peter was my Mom's loving companion for many years. Together they enjoyed quite a few kayaking and bicycling adventures in Buffalo, NY and Homosassa, Florida. Peter and Mom had many laughs and were good together. I will miss hearing the stories Mom shared about life with Peter. Peter touched the lives of our family in so many ways.

Jodie Schlaerth - March 11, 2023 at 07:40 AM

KC

Peter delivered the Tonawanda Newspaper for some years in his teens and used his earnings to take flying lessons. It took longer than he wanted but he was so pleased with himself when he finally got his pilot permit.

Katherine Calorusso - March 10, 2023 at 10:51 AM