A Celebration of Life Graham Alan Peters



Born into Life: July 10, 1942

Born into Eternal Life: August 13, 2024

Witness to the Resurrection September 7, 2024 ~ 11:00 AM

Forest Hill Church, Presbyterian
The Rev. Carol Wedell
Dr. Ying Tan, Director of Music/Organist

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted."
-Matthew 5:4

Prelude

Greeting/Welcome

The Rev. Carol Wedell

Opening Sentences

Psalm 103:13, Isaiah 66:13

As a father has compassion for his children, so the Lord has compassion for those who fear God.

As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you, says the Lord.

Hymn No. 14

"For The Beauty of the Earth" (verses 1,2 & 4)

Prayer/Invocation

The Rev. Carol Wedell

Scripture Readings

Jeannine Gury

Psalm 23

(from Nan Merrill's Psalms for Praying: An Invitation to Wholeness)

Revelation 21:1-4 (page 1007)

Poem

by Anara Guard

"Death after Dementia"

Caleb Peters

Words of Thanksgiving and Remembrance

Scott Peters
The Rev. Carol Wedell

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Lord's Prayer (read in unison)

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Hymn No. 649

"Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound" (verses 1,3 & 5)

Commendation

You only are immortal, the creator and maker of all. We are mortal, formed of the earth, and to earth we shall return.

This you ordained when you created us, saying, "You are dust, and to dust you shall return."

All of us go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with all your saints, where there is neither pain nor sorrow nor sighing but life everlasting. **Amen.**

Benediction

Postlude

Please join the family for the reception following the service in Fellowship Hall at Forest Hill Church.

Graham Alan Peters, born July 10, 1942, passed away peacefully, surrounded by loved ones, on August 13, 2024. Graham lived a life full of kindness, integrity, and quiet strength.

The son of Vladimir Peters and Evelyn Irene Peters, Graham grew up with a deep sense of family, which remained a central theme throughout his life.

Graham shared a remarkable 58-year marriage with his beloved wife, Rosamonde ("Roz") Peters. Their love story began in the summer during college at Pebble Brook Country Club, where Graham worked as a Lifeguard and short-order cook and Roz as a receptionist/office manager. Despite the striking difference in their heights-Graham standing at an imposing 6 feet 3 inches, while Roz measured 5 feet 3 inches-their love and partnership were perfectly balanced.

Graham was a devoted father and is survived by his two children, Scott Peters (Jeannine Gury) and Deborah Peters (Victor Hull), who were the pride and joy of his life. His love for his children was matched by his adoration for his five grandchildren: Alexandra Rich, Cameron Peters, Mackenzie Graham Rich, Caleb Peters, and Aidan Peters. Graham cherished every moment spent with his grandchildren, delighting in their growth, achievements, and unique personalities. He was also a loving brother to his only sibling, Joyce Peters, with whom he shared a love of music.

Graham had a distinguished career as an Accountant and Financial Controller at Lincoln Electric Company, where he dedicated more than 30 years of service. Even after retiring from Lincoln Electric, Graham continued to apply his financial expertise by assisting his son's law firm with their bookkeeping and helping family and friends prepare their

annual tax returns. His commitment to his work reflected the values instilled in him by his father, Vladimir Peters, who also worked at Lincoln Electric as a Chief Engineer. His colleagues respected Graham for his meticulous attention to detail and unwavering work ethic, which extended to his community involvement. To that end, Graham achieved the 32nd-degree Mason designation (second highest level) and served as a weekly Junior Achievement advisor.

Graham's great love for the outdoors was deeply rooted in his teenage years at Culver Academy in Indiana, where he attended a summer military academy and a family cabin on Lake Huron in Ipperwash, Canada. There, Graham developed a lifelong passion for the water and sailing, experiences that left such an indelible mark on him that he often took his family to Culver for summer vacations, sharing with them the same sense of adventure and connection to nature.

A talented multi-sport athlete, Graham had a natural affinity for physical activity. He took great pride in teaching his children to swim, nurturing their love of the sport well into adulthood. His passion for tennis was equally strong, and he rarely missed his weekly tennis game with his Lincoln buddies at the Mayfield Village Racquet Club. He also was an avid bowler and part of a local league.

A true Renaissance man, Graham appreciated the arts as much as sports. He learned to play the piano by ear, a talent that reflected his innate musicality and love for creative expression. He also played the trombone, first at Cleveland Heights High School and later in the marching band at Kent State University. Graham was passionate about sharing his love for the arts with his family, and along with Roz, he never missed a chance to introduce Scott and Deborah to the cultural richness that local and international art museums had to offer. Graham's deep baritone voice

complemented any song, from Happy Birthday to church hymns or singing along to the best Johnny Cash, Harry Chapin, or John Denver songs. He was an excellent chef as well, who felt at home at the grill or in the kitchen whipping up daily comfort foods and making his infamous New Year's Day meals featuring pork, dumplings, sauerkraut and mashed potatoes.

Graham was a man of deep faith. He attended Forest Hill Presbyterian Church for more than sixty-six years and served as an Elder and Treasurer for many years. He lived his life with compassion, generosity, and a commitment to helping those around him. He volunteered to oversee heart and lung dissections with students in the Mayfield City Schools and worked with students involved in the local Special Olympics. Graham's quiet but steadfast devotion to his beliefs inspired all who knew him.

Graham Alan Peters will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him. He will be remembered for his dry humor, great bear hugs, and firm handshakes. His spirit will live on in his family and friends' hearts and the many lives he touched throughout his journey.

Instead of flowers, the family would appreciate donations to the <u>Alzheimer's Association</u> (<u>www.alz.org</u>).

The memorial service can also be viewed online (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LwaRLm3JWuU).

The obituary can be found online here: https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/legacyremembers/graham-peters-obituary?id=55846699

