



Emmett B. Peter III

July 25, 1951 - December 24, 2023

Emmett B. Peter III, 72, of Leesburg, passed away on December 24, 2023, surrounded by his loved ones. He is survived by his wife, Terre; his daughters, Lindsay and Kelsey; and his sisters, Marcia and Melanie.

After graduating from Leesburg high school, Emmett received a bachelor's degree in engineering technology from Clemson University, and a bachelor's and master's degree in mechanical engineering at UCF. In addition to being an accomplished engineer, Emmett was a lifelong car enthusiast who could "fix anything but a broken heart," and did all he could to help others. He will be deeply missed by his beloved friends and family.

A celebration of life service will be held on January 6, 2024, at 2 p.m. at the Leesburg Boating Club.

In lieu of flowers, please consider helping families affected by prion disease and supporting future research by donating to the CJD Foundation.

Arrangements entrusted to Beyers Funeral Home of Leesburg, Florida.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life Service

JAN 6. 2:00 PM (ET)

Leesburg Boating Club
31 Dozier Cir
Leesburg, FL 34748

Tribute Wall



“ *Beyers Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Emmett B. Peter III*



Beyers Funeral Home - January 05, 2024 at 12:05 PM

D.

“ *I had the pleasure of working with Emmett at various times over my Disney career. I first met Emmett as his project leader on the Monorail Project. Emmett's friendly good humor and positive attitude shone through on our many business trips on that project. And he was a truly impressive Engineer. When we worked together again some years later our roles reversed and he was my leader. It was always fun to be around him and learn from him. Thank you Emmett for your friendship, your wisdom and sense of humor. You are missed.*

Dan Welsh . - January 07, 2024 at 11:19 AM

DL

“ *Emmett was one of the first people I met when I joined Disney. He was unfailingly kind, exceedingly bright, always humble, and nearly always smiling. I always felt valued when I worked with Emmett, and I especially enjoyed our conversations over the years, in locations around the world. the best were those that were not about the work. He was our friend and Karen and I will miss him. We send our sincere condolences to Terre and the family. Dennis and Karen Lind*

Dennis Lind - January 06, 2024 at 04:40 PM

LI

“Pete had a BIG heart; he was kind and generous. He was always willing to help others. He took out in trade to get our 4-wheeler running again when a branch from his tree broke and fell on our fence. On our walks we would wave to him as he rode by on his bike through Sunnyside.

Our condolences, thoughts and prayers are with you Terre, Lindsay, Kelsy, Marcia and Melanie

Tom and Linda Felton

Linda - January 06, 2024 at 12:07 PM

VC

“I met Emmett while working at Disneyland Paris in 1991. When I moved to Florida, Emmett hired me as his secretary in 1996. I fondly remember the years I worked with him. He was very thoughtful and considerate, willing to invest time to clearly explain things and he fully back his team in challenging situations. Emmett also helped me outside of work with a variety of projects including fixing my car and chasing down my runaway dog who stole the spark plugs.

Our thoughts are with you all during this time.

Val Caswell - January 06, 2024 at 10:50 AM

BP

“ *What a sincerely nice man ... PETE. So blessed to have known him. He always was so friendly and good-hearted, and had the very brightest smile. He was a good-natured joy to know. He was so kind to my mother and me when we rented the beautiful home at Frog Log in the last year and months of her life. I rescued her from a nursing home, needed a big enough place for her things and my things, prayed about it, and the very next day I saw a "for rent" sign at Frog Log. What a blessing! I can't even explain to you how beautiful my mom's smile was when I told her she was leaving that nursing home and would be living with me in the lovely home on the beautiful lake. I am fully convinced 100% that extended her life. She lived to 95, just 8 days shy of 96. I will be forever grateful to Pete for that time with my mom at Frog Log. We felt so at home and at peace there. Rest in Peace, Pete. You were a special angel of a person.*

Sincerest and Deepest Sympathy to ALL Pete's family.

Love,

Bonnie Jean & Chuck Price

Bonnie Jean and Chuck Price - January 06, 2024 at 10:30 AM

BP

“ *Bonnie & Chuck Price purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Emmett B. Peter III.*



Bonnie & Chuck Price - January 06, 2024 at 10:14 AM

SB

“ Along with so many others, I met Emmett associated with the Theme Park and Entertainment industry at ASTM. Over decades, I have come to know Emmett as a consummate Engineer, a leader among leaders, a brilliant person of distinct humility, accepting of all, a model of empathy, and an icon within the bespoke group of professionals leading the global themed entertainment safety and technical world. Name any theme park related venue anywhere on this planet where Emmett would speak, and all would listen. From the beginning, Emmett modeled what became the primary ethos of ASTM - that safety cuts across all competitive lines, prompting people to work together as not seen in any other industry. Though for many years we worked for competitor companies, Emmett has always been a friend, a collaborator, a confidant, a model. When Emmett retired from Disney, we immediately engaged him as a part time consultant, to the great benefit of many project teams, especially those with younger engineers. To say we will miss him is a pathetic understatement. The industry will not soon, and likely not ever, see the likes of another equal to Emmet Peter. Having said that, all these memories and feelings pale compared to what the Peter Family now must endure. To that, I can only say thank you so much for sharing this wonderful human with us all these years, and know that a part of Emmett's legacy is the hundreds of professionals he has personally influenced (myself absolutely included) to be better than they thought they could be. But even more importantly, know that Emmett's fingerprints are on the billions of safe and fun experiences he helped create every single year, and every year going forward.

-Steve Blum

Steven Blum - January 06, 2024 at 09:45 AM

SB

“ Steven B. planted a grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Emmett B. Peter III.

Steven B. - January 06, 2024 at 09:13 AM

VC

“ 2 files added to the album uploaded pictures



Val Caswell - January 05, 2024 at 11:24 PM

VC

I met Emmett while working at Disneyland Paris in 1991. When I moved to Florida, Emmett hired me as his secretary in 1996. I fondly remember the years I worked with him. He was very thoughtful and considerate, willing to invest time to clearly explain things and he fully back his team in challenging situations. Emmett also helped me outside of work with a variety of projects including fixing my car and chasing down my runaway dog who stole the spark plugs. Our thoughts are with you all during this time.

Val Caswell - January 06, 2024 at 10:47 AM

MH

“ Heartfelt prayers and sympathy to family & friends. We are very sorry for your loss.
Marylen & Jim Hastings



Marylen Hastings - January 05, 2024 at 12:44 AM

MI

My deepest sympathies Kelsey. Although I was not privileged to know your father, I'm sure his light, wisdom and kindness shine through you. We're so blessed that he also brought you to this world. May he rest in peace and may you and your family find solace in all the memories of a beautiful lifetime shared. Margarita Inserni & Leanna Lupin-Inserni & Fa.

Margarita Inserni - January 05, 2024 at 01:37 AM

CS

“ *Pete was such a good friend of my brother David. He and Paul and David were sweet with my mom in her last years. He will be greatly missed.*



Connie Barcus Sartory - January 04, 2024 at 10:19 PM

MW

“ *I met Emmett about 30 years ago. I immediately thought he was a true gentleman. Very professional and personable. I worked at WDI and was involved in leading the Ride Group and responsible for ride safety. That put in in a position to have consent interaction with Emmett. Later we found ourselves coleading the ASTM F24 committee developing the world safety standard. I can not express how heart broken I am at Emmett's passing. My deepest condolences to his family and friends. The world will be a bit darker with his kind soul among us. Rest in peace my dear friend.*

Michael Withers - January 04, 2024 at 03:51 PM

FC

“ *Franceen Gonzales, ASTM F24 Chair purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Emmett B. Peter III.*



Franceen Gonzales, ASTM F24 Chair - January 04, 2024 at 03:24 PM

FC

“ *Franceen Gonzales, ASTM F24 Chair planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Emmett B. Peter III.*

Franceen Gonzales, ASTM F24 Chair - January 04, 2024 at 03:24 PM

DA

“ I first met Emmett in early 2004 when interviewing for the role of Human Factors Professional for what was then the Walt Disney Parks & Resorts Safety, Accessibility, and Advanced Technology (SAAT) group – later to morph into Worldwide Safety. As Director of that group, Emmett would become my boss. I told Emmett several times over the course of our relationship that he was likely the best boss I ever had the pleasure of working for and with. As others note, he was always calm, kind, and helpful with a great, dry sense of humor. He had a great breadth of knowledge of his field and of the inner workings of Disney that he was more than willing to share with those in need, including a newbie like me. I’ve uploaded a few photos of Emmett and I that were taken during a trip to Disneyland Paris (DLP) in May 2007. Two are of a great restaurant near DLP that their safety team (the other folks in the photo) took us to. Two others show Emmett and I in a Paris pizza parlor. Emmett was kind enough to show me the ropes of how to get around using the French rail system since I planned to visit Paris myself for one day and we did a bit of sightseeing in Paris, including eating some great pizza. The other two photos are of Emmett and I seeing how well we fit in one of the new rides at DLP - Cars Quatre Roues Rallye. We were there to do a safety inspection of it was well as of other areas of the then new park in DLP, Walt Disney Studios Park, including another attraction called Crush's Coaster. It was a great experience. Emmett, you are dearly loved by those that had the pleasure of knowing you and will be deeply missed.



Dr. Robert Allen - January 03, 2024 at 10:05 PM

 Debbie Singh

“ So very sad to hear of Emmett’s passing. I enjoyed working with him for 9 years as his Executive Secretary before he retired. Emmett was always very kind and generous. He had a wonderful sense of humor. He was liked by everyone in the office and indeed everyone who knew him. My daughter Kimberly and I send our deepest condolences to his wife Teri, daughters, Lindsay and Kelsey and his sisters Marcia and Melanie. These are some photos that I have from Emmett's time at Disney



Debbie Singh - January 03, 2024 at 04:01 PM

MW

“ Emmett was one of the greatest human beings I ever had the privilege to meet, know, and work with. Without fail, he was positive, thoughtful, and helpful. One of a kind and will never be forgotten.

Mike Westmoreland - January 03, 2024 at 03:38 PM

AM

“ I worked with Terre my first job out of college in the early 90s. I was considering buying a Jeep Wrangler that was for sale in our office building. Pete offered to take a look at it to make sure it was in good mechanical condition before I bought it. I took it over to their house and he gave it a good once over and it cleared his inspection. So, I bought the Jeep and still have it to this day.

Alyson McCoy - January 03, 2024 at 02:54 PM

JG

“ I worked for Emmett at Disney 25 years ago. Emmett was always calm ALWAYS even when Test Track was at its worst. We shared the joy of flying, boating and Disney. We stayed in touch through ASTM over the years. I tried to reconnect a few weeks ago and feel very sad at the missed opportunity to say how much I enjoyed the time together so many years ago.

Jeff Gliner - January 03, 2024 at 12:31 PM



“ Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Emmett B. Peter III.



January 03, 2024 at 12:20 PM

AT

“ Emmett was a very good friend and colleague and I truly enjoyed listening to him teach and help others as well as myself. Conversations and activities were always more enjoyable when Emmett was with us. He will be missed a lot by myself and all those who knew and worked with him at ASTM F24 meetings and his teaching at AIMS Safety Seminars. Here is a photo of Emmett surrounded by his friends and colleagues, he will be missed.



Andreas Tanzer - January 03, 2024 at 11:49 AM

BE

“ I was deeply saddened to hear of Emmett's passing, and I send condolences to his family. As a member of the Ops team at Disney, I interacted frequently with Emmett and his team. Conversations with him were always productive; he was friendly and engaging, and he always "wowed" me with his engineering prowess.

Bob Ennis - January 03, 2024 at 08:57 AM

BG

“ I've only known Emmett for a short time, however, it didn't take long to enjoy being around him and talking to him! Emmett, your presence will be extremely missed by your Universal Creative Project Team. Wishing your family and friends peace and comfort during this difficult time.

Brenda Grima - January 03, 2024 at 08:43 AM

NZ

“ Emmett was the engineer I would call whenever I had puzzles to solve on my project. He didn't always have the answer but always loved listening and exploring solutions with me. He will be missed a lot.

Noel Zhang - January 02, 2024 at 09:36 PM

RS

“ *Memories of Emmett Peter, From Richard Shultz, January 2nd, 2024*

I met Emmett in '78 when I started working at Burroughs in Orlando. He, Bill Voecks and I became friends while all working as mechanical engineers at Burroughs. We had a regular foursome for racket ball on Sunday mornings along with Steve Brady, which was followed by breakfast at Winter Park Diner. I have fond memories of that time.

Emmett was a great welder. He welded the bike frame that I designed and built. It is hard to weld aluminum and get it right. The welder has to view the weld thru a very dark smoked glass and hold the TIG tip a precise distance from the work piece. Emmett had steady hands and was a much better welder than me.

He also kept a cool head in a crisis and “rescued” a co-worker from a whipping air hose. We were back in the Burroughs shop area when an air hose blew out its nozzle. High pressure air was spewing from the hose causing it to whip and thrash about wildly. Randy was hiding under a table to avoid the whipping hose. Emmett was the only one there brave enough to step up and grab the hose. We were all glad he did!

Emmett was a great guy, an outstanding engineer, and a good friend. He made the world a better place. He will be sorely missed. Condolences to his loving family.

Richard Shultz - January 02, 2024 at 08:57 PM

HH

“ *I was lucky enough to meet him while in Orlando a few months ago. His demeanor was always delightful. We will miss him dearly.*

Harry Hobson - January 02, 2024 at 08:04 PM

LF

“ I met Emmett at Disney and ASTM. Always a smiling face, willing to help, and could explain complex concepts so that anyone could understand. I will miss his smiling face and the joy he brought to any gathering. My heart goes out to his family - we lost him too quick and too soon.

Linda Freeman - January 02, 2024 at 01:19 PM

RL

“ Emmett was one of the best leaders I've worked under. He always impressed me on all the energy he had, riding his KTM dirt bike and all the amazing car restoration projects he did on his own. Emmett was such an awesome guy and will definitely be missed.



Ron Lwin - January 02, 2024 at 12:31 PM

KF

“ I knew Emmett from the ASTM F24 Committee. He was smart, kind, quietly funny, and he welcomed me into the work. I will remember him as a good engineer, a good man, and a steady light. Sending love to his family and friends.

Kathy Fackler - January 02, 2024 at 10:50 AM

MK

“ Emmett was a valued engineer at Disney. He will be greatly missed!

Mike Kilbert - January 02, 2024 at 10:33 AM

MK

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Mike Kilbert - January 02, 2024 at 10:31 AM

CH

“ I met Emmett at ASTM and was impressed by his passion and encouragement for the amusement industry. His infectious smile will be deeply missed. He had one of those smiles that filled the room. I pray for his family that they will be surrounded by love and comfort now and in the days & months ahead. Emmett will be greatly missed.



Charma - January 02, 2024 at 09:56 AM

PA

“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



Pam Anderson - January 02, 2024 at 06:46 AM

MP

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Melanie Peter - January 02, 2024 at 03:27 AM

MP

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Melanie Peter - January 02, 2024 at 03:23 AM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Emmett B. Peter III.



January 01, 2024 at 10:09 PM

TI

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Tina - January 01, 2024 at 08:09 PM

AB

“ I worked with Emmett for 36 years off and on and always enjoyed his company and his insights. He was one of the best humans I've had the honor to call a friend.

Aidan Bradley - January 01, 2024 at 06:42 PM

MH

“ Emmett was the first WDW engineer I met when I joined WDI. I have many fond memories of working with him including how grateful the entire WDI team was when he arranged for an RV to be parked on the jobsite so we had an air conditioned place to use while commissioning Epic Stunt Theater at Hollywood Studios. He was a great mentor and wonderful person.

Maureen Hart - January 01, 2024 at 09:43 AM

MP

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Melanie Peter - December 31, 2023 at 03:19 PM

EM

“ 16 files added to the album uploaded pictures



Eldon Muller - December 31, 2023 at 10:35 AM

EM

Worked for Emmett many years and enjoyed them all. Will miss him...

Eldon Muller - December 31, 2023 at 10:36 AM

MA

“ 1 file added to the album uploaded pictures



Mario - December 30, 2023 at 09:27 AM

MA

“ *Emmett was my mentor beginning in 1984. He was always a consummate professional, a great engineer, and a wonderful person. He became my leader at Disney in 1988 and was an inspiration to the entire team. He was a part of many happy memories over the last 40 years.*

- Mario Scarabino

Mario - December 30, 2023 at 12:38 AM

VC

I met Emmett while working at Disneyland Paris in 1991. When I moved to Florida, Emmett hired me as his secretary in 1996. I fondly remember the years I worked with him. He was very thoughtful and considerate, willing to invest time to clearly explain things and he fully back his team in challenging situations.

Emmett also helped me outside of work with a variety of projects including fixing my car and chasing down my runaway dog who stole the spark plugs.

Our thoughts are with you all during this time.

Val Caswell

Val Caswell - January 05, 2024 at 09:28 PM