



J. Peter O'Neil

March 25, 2015

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. - J. Peter O'Neil, age 68, of Eden Prairie, Minn., died on March 25, 2015. He is survived by his wife, Carol (Sypniewski); his daughter, Kelly (Kevin Gross); his son, Tom (Erica); and four grandchildren, Cassie, Allie, Michael and Gus.

Peter was born in Lynbrook, N.Y., son of Clement and Frances (Theis) and brother of Larry O'Neil. Peter married his high school sweetheart, and they moved to the St. Louis, Mo., area where he began his teaching career while working on his master's degree at Webster College.

After obtaining his master's degree, Peter and his family moved to Waunakee, Wis. Peter spent the next 23 years teaching science at Waunakee Middle School and also led the Summer Science program during his tenure. Peter loved teaching, was fascinated by astronomy, and he loved his students. In 1993, Peter was one of four teachers chosen as Wisconsin State Teacher of the Year. He loved helping other teachers with their curriculum planning, and he created a software program for teachers called Science Cap. After teaching, Peter worked as a director of Curriculum and Instruction in the Brodhead and DeForest school districts. Peter loved travelling, all things Irish, the Cubs and most of all his family and friends.

A memorial service will be held at a later date. Memorial gifts in Mr. O'Neil's memory can be made to the Lewy Body Dementia Association, 912 Killian Hill

Road S.W., Lilburn, GA 30047 (<http://lbda.org/go/donate>).

Arrangements are being handled by the Washburn-McReavy Funeral Home of Eden Prairie, Minn.

Tribute Wall

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“*Mr. O'Neil was one of my favorite science teachers in middle school! He was kind to us, funny, inspiring, goofed around with us, and taught us without even realizing we were learning. I became a scientist and now a college administrator because of Peter O'Neil's impact on my life. I am sure you are proud of his legacy, but I wanted you to know he touched many lives, and many you will not even know. I wish you all peace and grace at this time, and wanted you to know I was thinking of you. Elaina Bleifield, Mendota Heights, MN*

Elaina Bleifield - April 01, 2015 at 08:03 AM