



Peter Joseph Lindberg

September 9, 1935 - January 23, 2026

Peter Joseph Lindberg passed away peacefully on January 23, 2026, after 90 years of an inspiring life of public service.

Peter was born September 9, 1935, in Red Wing, Minnesota, to parents Carl and Lenore Lindberg. Peter was raised in St. Louis Park, and attended St. Louis Park High School (1953). The first in his family to graduate from college, Peter attended the University of Minnesota College of Liberal Arts (1961), and the U of M Law School (1963).

After college, Peter married the love of his life, Donna Mae Schroer. They were married for over 68 wonderful years and raised three children in their St. Louis Park, and later, Edina-Morningside, home.

He began practicing law in 1963, but in a sense, his commitment to public service began in 1961 when he was elected the first President of the St. Louis Park Human Relations Council. He was also active in DFL politics until Governor Wendell Anderson appointed him to the Hennepin County Court in 1974. He served on the court for 26 years, including four years as Chief Judge for Hennepin County, the 4th Judicial District of the State of Minnesota. Upon retirement from the bench Judge Lindberg engaged in mediation and arbitration of litigation, with the Gilbert Mediation Center.

Outside the court, "Judge Lindberg" became "Coach Lindberg," as Peter coached each of his three son's youth hockey teams in Edina. He then became very involved in various hockey associations, serving on the Board of the Edina Hockey Association and then President of Minnesota Amateur Hockey Association. His successful administration of hockey in Minnesota led to his appointment as an Officer of USA Hockey and a Director of USA Hockey Foundation. USA Hockey wasn't about to overlook his exceptional judicial acumen.

After Peter's MAHA presidential term was complete in 1986, he was invited to dive headlong into service as USA Hockey's first Legal Council chair, a role in which he remained until his retirement in June 2014. Peter helped draft every bylaw and governing document used by USA Hockey, and he oversaw every consequential legal matter on behalf of American hockey. He also worked closely with the United States Olympic Committee to ensure compliance with the Amateur Sports Act of 1978, providing important legal protection for athletes. Peter became an Emeritus Director for USA Hockey in 2016.

In addition to his long-term involvement with hockey in Minnesota and the United States, Peter served as one of only 200 arbitrators worldwide for The Court of Arbitration for Sport, the top legal tribunal for resolving disputes between athletes and their sports federations, and determining Olympic or International competition eligibility.

The National Hockey League recognized Peter's many contributions to the development and management of amateur hockey by awarding him the Lester Patrick Award. Awarded annually to players, coaches, and executives for the "outstanding service to hockey in the United States," past recipients include Wayne Gretzky, John Mariucci, Scotty Bowman and Gordie Howe. Of his award, NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman noted, "The global stature of American hockey has been advanced immeasurably by the contributions of

Peter Lindberg..." In June, 2014, Minnesota Governor Dayton recognized Peter for his 45 years of service to Minnesota and USA Hockey. Peter and other Lester Patrick awardees are recognized in the Hockey Hall of Fame.

Over time, travel became an important part of Peter and Donna's life, ultimately visiting six of the seven continents, with notable trips to Papua New Guinea, Australia, New Zealand, China, Kenya, Paris, and parts of Eastern Europe.

Peter is survived by his wife Donna Lindberg and their three children, Mark (Jennifer) Lindberg, Todd (Margie) Lindberg, and Paul (Shelley) Lindberg, and six grandchildren, Chloë (Hight) Louke, Joseph (Natalie) Lindberg, Nathan Lindberg, Ellery Hight, Maren Lindberg, Katherine Lindberg, and one great grandchild, Boden (Joe and Natalie). He was preceded in death by his parents, and siblings Jack Lindberg and Catherine Lindberg.

Mass of Christian burial will be held on Thursday, February 26, 2026, at 11:00 am at Pax Christi Catholic Church, 12100 Pioneer Trail, Eden Prairie, MN, with visitation starting at 10:00 am. A light lunch will be served after the service.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made in Peter's name to the USAHockey Foundation <https://www.usahockeyfoundation.com/youthhockey> or Little Hospice <https://www.littlehospice.org/donate>

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB **26**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Pax Christi Catholic Church
12100 Pioneer Trail
Eden Prairie, MN 55347

Mass of Christian Burial

FEB **26**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Pax Christi Catholic Church
12100 Pioneer Trail
Eden Prairie, MN 55347

Tribute Wall

MB

“ 2 files added to the album Pictures of Pete & Donna



Mark Boyce - February 26 at 10:03 AM

JT

“ Donna and family please accept my condolences for Peter's loss. I'm so sorry for your loss. He was a fine gentleman and I so enjoyed working with him at USA Hockey. I wouldn't be counsel now if not for him.

John Tobin - February 20 at 07:44 PM



“ He was a wonderful man and neighbor, and as kids we all looked up to him. He will always remain a warm memory for us

Steve Mathiason

Steve Mathiason - February 05 at 02:06 PM

NH

“ Dear Family and Friends,
It was our pleasure to care for Pete at this important time.
With Sympathies,
Nurses and Staff at NC Little Hospice

NC Little Hospice - February 05 at 10:40 AM

JU

“ *Judy lit a candle in memory of Peter Joseph Lindberg*



Judy - January 28 at 08:31 PM

JU

“ *One of the things that stands out most to me when I think back of all the times spent with Uncle Pete is his voice, so soothing and reassuring, and especially the phrase "you know", I can hear it now as I write this. Clear as day as is he we're sitting next to me, "you know, Judy..." And the twinkle in his eye, he always seemed to send you on your way, at the end of those long Minnesota goodbyes with a smile and a twinkle. I recall thinking as a child at one point, he must be related to Santa Claus because his eyes twinkle just like Santa's! Rest well, good and faithful servant, YouTube run the race and it's time to rest. You'll be missed and are loved.*

Judy - January 28 at 08:29 PM

JU

Have to say that the auto correct is terrible, but surely Uncle Pete's laughing at these "corrections" lol.

Judy - January 28 at 08:31 PM

WC

A great Judge. I did not know him well but he was a great Judge I can tell you that!

william cottrell - January 29 at 10:44 AM

GM

I served with Pete Lindberg as a District Court Judge and also as a co mediator with Gilbert Mediation. He was a fine man, a great mediator and a wise and compassionate judge. He will be missed. Gary Meyer

Gary Meyer - January 29 at 12:43 PM

DH

He was a good man, as I got to know him he taught me so much. I would always call him a Scholar and he would laugh. When he would tell me about all the places he and Donna traveled I felt like I actually felt I had been there. I will miss Peter dearly but I am so glad he was at peace . Dawn Haun

Dawn Haun - January 30 at 11:31 AM

RF

The above post was from the Roger & Marilyn Boyce Family. For some reason the name got clipped off.

Roger & Marilyn Boyce Family - February 25 at 09:12 PM

TF

The Boyce Family adored Pete so much and he will be missed dearly. We love the entire Lindberg Family. We go back to the 1950's when Roger & Marilyn and Donna & Pete got married within a year of one another and started families. There were so many amazing moments we had with Pete, and it is impossible to cover them all. One was the drive to California in 1960 for the Rose Bowl and watched the Golden Gophers play football. Another was Pete officiating a marriage in Hawaii for Susan (oldest Boyce daughter). A very tight group of only 30 people travelled there. Peter and Donna were part of that precious event and we are so thankful for that. Another fond memory is how the family would play marble games in Ft Myers, Florida. Pete was very competitive and never wanted to lose. He would be clear with Donna looking at her squarely in the eye on how to make a winning move when they played as a team and partners. Such a competitive man and fun to learn from and observe. That Judge/Lawyer mind was sharp as a tack. One last memory was Roger visiting Pete before court and chatting about current events and politics. A lot of spirited conversations! Pete was loving, sincere, kind and such strong character and soul. The Boyce family admired him. He was a great role model. So many wonderful memories the entire Boyce family will cherish him forever. God bless and we know God is watching over him and the entire Lindberg family in this difficult time.

The Roger & Marilyn Boyce Family - February 25 at 09:12 PM