



Dr. Peter Sawin Ray

July 26, 1944 - December 7, 2020

Dr. Peter Sawin Ray passed away on December 7, 2020 after a short illness. He was born in 1944 in Iowa City, IA to Paul and Mary Ray. Raised in Cedar Rapids, he completed his undergraduate degrees in mathematics and physics at Iowa State before coming to Tallahassee in 1966 to begin his graduate work in meteorology at Florida State.

He was a pioneer in doppler radar meteorology and an expert in severe storms meteorology; after earning his PhD in 1973, he worked at the National Severe Storms Laboratory in Norman, OK, where he served as the Chief of Meteorological Research and acting Deputy Director of the laboratory. In 1985, he returned to his beloved Tallahassee and Florida State. At FSU, he continued his research as a professor of meteorology, including a role serving as the department chair.

In recent years, he was dedicated to his regular hurricane forecasts, emailed to over 5,000 people across the country. His focus on clear, direct weather communication was appreciated by so many, from families to business leaders and policymakers.

As the son of a music professor, he learned early to appreciate the classical masters. He made it a mission to teach his children the technical aspects and share the emotional connections to music, including how it can set the right mood at a party, its value as a sacred part of worship, and how it opens our hearts and minds.

Peter's desire to learn was never ending. Even in an increasingly digital world,

he read hardback encyclopedias for fun. If there was something he didn't know or understand, he would seek an answer. This quest for knowledge was also demonstrated through his many hobbies. He mastered a wide range of skills, including candle making, calligraphy, cross-stitching stockings, beekeeping, and hot sauce making.

He is survived by his wife, Aileen Suarin Ray; children Sarah Ray Connors (Sean), Matt Ray (Krista), Jonathan Ray, Ara Ray, RG Ray, MJ Ray, and Alex Ray; sister Susan Storm and brother Paul Ray; 5 grandchildren and a host of nieces and nephews, all of whom loved him dearly.

A private family service will be held at Faith Presbyterian Church in Tallahassee. The service will be livestreamed on Friday, December 11 at 10 AM at www.drpeterray.com. A graveside service in Indiana will follow.

In lieu of flowers, please consider contributions to the Faith Presbyterian Church worship and music ministry fund to support the Furthest Pew.

Because of the unusual circumstances of this year, we regret that we were unable to have the celebration of life that he would have loved. Instead, we hope that you find time to take a moment this holiday season to share a memory, have a Barnaby's pizza or Steak and Shake, make a root beer float (A&W if you can find it), and a rum and Coke, and raise your glass in his honor.

Rocky Bevis and Kelly Barber of Bevis Funeral Home (850-385-2193 or www.bevisfh.com) are assisting the Ray family with their arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Rest Haven Cemetery

650 South Eisenhower Drive
Edinburgh, IN 46124

Previous Events

Private Family Service

DEC 11. 10:00 AM (ET)

Faith Presbyterian Church
2200 North Meridian Rd.
Tallahassee, FL 32303

Tribute Wall

CR

“ I’m sorry I’m so late to share my thoughts about Peter Ray. It’s pure ignorance that I didn’t know of this tribute wall dedicated to a man I just called Peter. He was my neighbor for 10 years before quick passing.

His wife, Aileen, was clearly loved by Peter. All their children from RJ, Ara, MJ and the youngest Alex, kept home life very lively and he appeared to love it that way. They all are awesome kids/young adults. Over time, RG., the oldest moved out, then Ara, both after high school graduation. That left MJ and Alex still keeping his days full after his big job to begin his father role having to pick up Alex from elementary school.

I always looked forward to seeing him because his laugh and his signature smile were contagious. He always spoke highly of his wife Aileen. He would brag on her like we all hoped our husbands would do.

Unfortunately, I didn’t know much about his big accolades at FSU meteorology department or even his official title when I was neighbors with him. He was a humble man in that area. He didn’t talk about that. He talked about his bees, Aileen, and his kids.

I continue to miss him and know that Aileen achingly misses had to take on so much since his passing. He often poked positively of his older children from another marriage.

Peter Ray was not all about his very successful professional but a good family man too!

Please keep Aileen, MJ, Alex, Ara, and RG in your thoughts and prayers around the anniversary of his death. Also, pray for Peter’s other children

Regards,
Cindy

Cindy Robinson - December 08, 2021 at 03:11 PM

SC

Thank you for your kind thoughts about my dad, on behalf of all of his kids who miss him so much. -Sarah (for Matt and Jonathan)

Sarah Connors - December 14, 2021 at 01:43 PM

LD

“ *We are facing the first hurricane threat of the year, and here I was searching for Peter Ray’s forecast. It was the silver lining to every Hurricane season to receive his witty updates that were always sent with perfect timing as well as impeccable wit. It was after my inbox was empty for too long that I feared the worst... and that fear changed to sadness when I came to this site. I imagine that more of his ardent fans and followers will be having the same realization soon, as we see the hole that was left as a result of his passing. My deepest condolences to his family - as I know that the 5,000 of us who followed his forecasts appreciate this loss, I can only imagine what a loss this has been to his family. Prayers for peace and comfort to you.*

Leslue Ann Dunn - July 04, 2021 at 05:34 PM

SC

Thank you so much for your sweet message - it is nice to continue to hear that others appreciated his knowledge and wit, and looked forward to his updates, even during what might be an anxious weather season. (Sarah Ray Connors - his daughter)

Sarah Connors - July 16, 2021 at 07:31 PM

BW

“ It was with a saddened surprise that i learned of the death of your close family member Peter Ray. I know it is always a terrible shock when someone so close to you passes away. Peter was loved by many and will be missed by all.

As a first cousin I wish I had done more to keep in touch with Peter and shared our lives as they progressed . From all I did hear and learn about Peter from time to time I learned that he was a most interesting person. We lived on opposite coasts, literally a continent apart; this was a challenge which I wish I had done more to meet. I wish to express my heartfelt sympathy and the hope the kind words of your family and friends will make this difficult time a bit easier to bear.

Most sincerely, Bill Waterfield.

Bill Waterfield - December 28, 2020 at 07:25 PM

LR

“ My husband and I are one of Dr. Ray's thousands of hurricane followers. I think we have followed his forecasts for more than 10 years, maybe more. We have a home on St. George Island. His clarity & wit were invaluable. His forecasts were accurate and not alarmist or too technical. I am touched by all of the comments and glad to know what an interesting man he was. I pray for his family. He now has the peace that passes all understanding. I will miss him. I felt like I knew him.

Lee Sewell

PS Many years ago his forecasts appeared in my IN box as from pr ay@met.fsu.edu and it always made me feel my prayers to be spared were being shared!

LRSevell - December 25, 2020 at 07:34 PM

CK

“ Peter was my graduate advisor while at the University of Oklahoma and the National Severe Storms Laboratory, teaching me all about dual Doppler analysis in the late 1970's and early 1980's. We sure had a lot of laughs together! My memories of Peter and Sharon back then are very fond and are some of my favorite times. Peter helped my career immensely when he recommended me for a position at the National Center for Atmospheric Research. He had contacted me recently to return his copy of my thesis and it was really nice to hear from him.

My deepest condolences to his family, he will be missed. Rest in peace, Peter.

Cathy Kessinger

Cathy Kessinger - December 25, 2020 at 03:09 PM

DS

“ I first met him when I was a Freshman at FSU. He inspired me to have a lifelong interest in meteorology and weather. Years later when he began his email blogs, I so looked forward to his forecasts and looked to him first for guidance on incoming storms impact on the Florida coasts, first from Pensacola and later from Jacksonville Beach. He was an inspiration to me and so many others. Many will miss him.

*Diane Swanson
Jacksonville Beach, FL*

Diane Swanson - December 20, 2020 at 07:13 AM

CL

“ *Peter, que dire à part tellement de souvenirs dans la petite maison de Bures... et plein de rires, les mêmes que Jonathan! Toujours souriant ! Plein de pensées pour toute la famille...*

Clotilde - December 17, 2020 at 05:40 AM

JD

“ *While I never met Dr. Ray, I've been following him for so long that I felt like I knew him well. After reading his lovely obituary, I realized I only knew about a very small part of him. All I can say is "what a guy"! Every year, toward the end of May, I tempted fate by looking forward to hearing from him for the next 6 months. He never disappointed. His death saddens me personally, but for those who knew and loved him, you have my deepest sympathy.*

*Jan Dees
Crystal River, FL*

Jan Dees - December 16, 2020 at 11:24 AM

JM

“ *I never personally knew Dr. Ray. A colleague was kind enough to share a link to his storm report which I found to be incredibly informative, factual, educational and at times humorous. His wit, blended with his ability to provide the common individual the facts at hand made him a favorite, trusted read. He always was the best part of hurricane season.*

We've lost a good man who will be missed by scores.

My heartfelt condolences to his family and loved ones in this solemn time. May he rest in peace.

*Jim McGlynn,
Lake Park, Fla.*

Jim McGlynn - December 15, 2020 at 05:00 PM

KW

“ I never met Dr. Ray but our family has depended on his forecast for quite a long time. We always looked to him, before our local news (even though they are good).

I am so very sorry for your loss I feel like I have lost a friend.

Sincerely,

Katie and Don Willis

St. Petersburg, FL

Katie Willis - December 12, 2020 at 10:40 AM

CZ

“ Dear Ray family,

It was with great sadness that I read daughter Sarah's message informing me of her Dad Peter Ray's passing. But I'm glad for the opportunity to share with you all how important a role Peter played as my research advisor and mentor during my graduate school years, later as a valued colleague as I began my career at the National Severe Storms Laboratory, and Best Man at my wedding to my wife Anne, all here in Norman. Sarah and brother Matt may remember, but perhaps not fully appreciate, how graciously Mom Sharon and Dad Peter literally welcomed me into their home and treated me almost as member of their family. It meant the world to a young man who grew up in Summit, NJ, and was a long way from his early roots in the northeast. I will be eternally grateful for how warmly Peter and Sharon encouraged me during those formative early career years. Plus, it was fun to watch for a time as little Sarah and Matt grew!

I cannot fully understand your personal sense of loss in this life-changing event. Having lost my own Dad back in 2000, I may be able to empathize with some of the sadness you are all experiencing. Please know that I will be keeping your family in my thoughts and prayers during your Dad's ceremony tomorrow in Tallahassee and in the days to come. I read Peter's life tributes page with a deep sense of appreciation for his life and his legacy, realized not only in children but also the many students whose career aspirations he helped further both here at the NSSL and the University of Oklahoma, and also at the Florida State University. I extend my most sincere condolences.

*Conrad Ziegler
Norman, Oklahoma*

Conrad Ziegler - December 11, 2020 at 07:22 PM

DR

“ Peter is my identical twin brother. Our lives in some aspects went in different directions. To be honest, he was a better student than I so I became a "late bloomer". Our father was a graduate from Julliard and we assimilated a love of the great composers of the time. He was also scientific in his application of how to interpret and express choral music. And the science of the human body as well as broad topics such as Physics. Maybe that explains his interest in physics and I became a physician. Most meaningful to me were his last days of being Physically alive on earth. In a too brief FaceTime I told him with uncontrollable emotion, "I love you" . He simply and honestly replied, "I know" . As a physician I have cared for many who did not survive their disease and know at the last moments of death there is a peace. let that be comforting. What I learned personally how important it was to say and receive those simple words. Words that too often are not shared enough with each other. Love is what you make it. the Greeks had 6 words for love: Eros, Philia, Ludus, Agape, Pragma, and Philautia. At various times we experience one or more of these. Thank you my dearest brother for your love at the time we said good by. You will live in my heart and mind forever. I pray for your family and those around you and will stand beside them when they wish.

Dr. Paul Ray

Dr. PAUL RAY - December 11, 2020 at 03:05 PM

CS

Well said Uncle Paul. I truly feel for your loss.

Christian Storm - December 11, 2020 at 05:34 PM

CO

So glad to read your words and know that you two communicated at the end. Sending love and prayers for comfort. Your cousin, Carolyn Sawin Osborne

Carolyn Osborne - December 14, 2020 at 11:08 AM

MR

“ Although I did not personally know Dr. Ray, I came to rely on his hurricane forecasts and trusted them more than local news reports. He always came directly to the point and his forecasts were amazingly accurate. I will very much miss Dr. Ray and his forecasts salted with a touch of humor but with empathy. Please accept my condolences for your great loss.

Margaret Reeder
Hobe Sound, Florida

Margaret Reeder - December 11, 2020 at 02:17 PM

RO

“ I worked with Dr. Ray at Florida State EOAS. He would always come by my office to say hello. And he always made me laugh. He could never say my last name right lol. Dr Ray you will be missed

Robin - December 11, 2020 at 01:30 PM

LU

“ I consider Dr. Peter Ray to be an earth angel. It's with no doubt that his gifts of intuition, research, accurate reports and predictions saved many lives over the years and prevented many sorrows. He was dedicated and persistent to helping people, and communicated on many levels to advise everyone of upcoming dangers. He was always humble and not seeking self glory. Dr. Ray is and was by far a man of valor and honor who walked his path truthfully, and sincerely, a man whom many should endeavor to follow in his footsteps. Thank you Sir for your compassion and kindness.

Lucy - December 11, 2020 at 12:15 PM

CB

“ I don't remember how I heard about Dr. Ray and his forecast, but it was word of mouth and ever since he was my information. Really did like his demeanor and communicaiton style. Always direct with a touch of humor and full of care for those in the path.



I never knew who he was, his age or backgroud and assumed it was someone younger; definitely a compliment. :) So, sorry to hear that he has passed, and for the family definitely missing a big part. May God's Peace comfort you in this time!!!

Craig L. Brooks - December 11, 2020 at 12:12 PM

KJ

“ Peter was a valued colleague, enthusiastic and supportive mentor, and true friend to us both. It was through Peter, while working at the National Severe Storms Lab in the late 70's-early 80's, that Karen and Ken met and eventually married (a union strongly endorsed by Peter and Sharon). In both Norman, OK and Tallahassee, our families had many wonderful gatherings and adventures with much laughter and always interesting conversation. Our deepest sympathy goes to his family.

Ken and Karen Johnson

Ken Johnson - December 11, 2020 at 12:12 PM

MN

“ I am sorry to hear of Dr. Ray's passing. I too was one of the recipients of his hurricane emails. I always found him to be spot on and I relied heavily on his guidance. He will be so missed. I hope you find peace in your memories.

Marjie Nealon - December 11, 2020 at 11:40 AM

CH

“ We met Peter in 1966 when he and Carl started their studies at FSU...we had many fun times there over the years including several canoe trips down local rivers and we appreciated his sense of humor...we were later all in Norman, OK where our families shared holidays and many milestone events...Peter was instrumental in getting Carl a position at The National Severe Storms Laboratory. Our condolences go out to his family, and thank you for sharing this service with us.

Carl and Nancy Hane

Carl Hane - December 11, 2020 at 11:09 AM

“ I have so many memories with Peter, Marianne and Jonathan, I don't know which one to pick. One that jumps to mind is the story of the Yassa chicken, an African recipe I learned when I lived in Senegal. It's delicious but time consuming. The chicken needs to be marinated for hours in lemon and onions and spice then slowly cooked. Peter, Marianne and Jonathan (who was probably 2 or 3 years old at the time) were, as usual, game for an exotic meal (well let's be honest, game for honoring their friend's weird cooking) and showed up at a reasonable hour, most likely around 6pm.

9pm: there are no more snacks. We're running dangerously low on beers. Marianne distracts us kindly for a few minutes when she crashes full frontal into the (apparently invisible) sliding window leading to my patio. One good news: she does not need stitches.

Me : "I don't understand it's been in the oven for 5 hours."

Dr. Marianne: "It's light pink, this chicken is anemic."

Jonathan: "I want my Barney costume! Guys, listen to me!"

Peter: "Is that oven even working?"

Jonathan: "Barney! Barney! Barney!"

Me: "Oh no....there is no heat coming out of the oven. We don't have anything to eat."

Dr Marianne: "Oh yes we do, we are going to drive this African chicken to our house and cook that sucker."

Me: "No way."

Peter: "Yes, load the Jeep, all aboard!"

Jonathan: "Yeah! Barney is waiting!"

And so goes the story of the Yassa chicken. We drove to the other side of town (salmonella here we come), and we ate that beast. Was it good? It was succulent. Best chicken ever, shared with friends.

Hélène Dubois

Rest in peace, Peter.

Hélène - December 11, 2020 at 11:03 AM



Un barbecue sur les Keys a eu sa revanche ... avec les mêmes témoins, plus d'autres, de Peter en train d'éventer, en vain, un barbecue en aluminium !... De tellement bons souvenirs ...

MClaude Niclot - December 11, 2020 at 12:13 PM

SS

“ *I am so sorry to hear of your loss. I too received his forecasts and will surely miss getting his predictions in the future hurricane seasons. From what I've read about him, it seems fitting that he was able to finish out the hurricane season before he passed. The family will be in my prayers.*

S Saunders

Sandy Saunders - December 11, 2020 at 10:52 AM

DS

“ *Neddy and I were very sorry to learn of Peter's death. We met Peter when we came to Tallahassee in the summer of 1967. Our apartment at Prince Manor Apartments on Jackson Bluff Rd. was directly above the apartment of Jerry Stephens, Peter's professor at FSU. Jerry, Peter and I played a highly competitive (for us) game of badminton after work on an almost daily basis. Over the years, Peter became a friend and highly regarded colleague in meteorology. Since my department (mathematics) and his department (meteorology) shared the Love building at FSU, we often ran into each other in the elevator.*

Peter will be missed; our sincere condolences to his wife and family.

De Witt and Neddy Sumners

De Witt Sumners - December 11, 2020 at 10:28 AM

PL

“ Peter was always a comforting presence in worship and before COVID, i really enjoyed our chats at the coffee bar in the fellowship hall on Sunday mornings. I am so very sorry for the pain his death brings you. Peace, love and blessings to your family.

Pam Leslie, Faith Presbyterian Church

Pamela Leslie - December 11, 2020 at 10:20 AM

CP

“ I only knew Dr. Ray through the emails he sent during hurricane season. Living in Florida, my husband and I came to rely on Dr. Ray's forecast much more than any other. We will miss him and his forecasts.

Please know that all of his family and friends are in my prayers.

Colleen Pacocha - December 11, 2020 at 10:04 AM

SM

“ I was born in 1944 too, and know that this his too young to die. I was one of the 5,000 that anxiously checked into my computer every time a storm was sited and thought to be headed our way. Dr. Ray was my "go to guy!" Rest In Peace, Peter Ray, I will miss you.
Susie Miller, Neptune Beach, Florida

Susie Miller - December 11, 2020 at 09:43 AM

XZ

“ Jordan and I were shocked when we heard the sad news. Peter and his family are our long time friends. We had a lot of good times together. We will remember him and his bright laughs. Tallahassee Summerbrooke neighbors will miss him and his wonderful firework show at every year's independent Day. Xiaolei and Jordan

xiaolei zou - December 11, 2020 at 09:35 AM

MO

“ *Aileen and Family,*

Becky and I mourn your loss and send best wishes and love to you and the family! The staff and officers of the United Faculty of Florida value you as a co-worker and friend. May your cherished memories strengthen you at this most difficult time. I also received Peter's reports and valued him as a faculty member at FSU and a devoted member of UFF.

*Peace and Love.
Marshall Ogletree*

Marshall Ogletree - December 11, 2020 at 08:31 AM

JF

“ *I did not know Dr. Ray but was one of the many recipients of his forecasts. Depended on his more than any of the other National or local forecasts. I will miss him.*

Joy Frank

Joy Frank - December 11, 2020 at 08:17 AM

JT

“ *As a weather buff and after joining FSU COM, I subscribed to Dr. Peter Ray's hurricane forecasts. Year after year, he proved his knowledge and expertise. His forecasts were accurate and reliable, sometimes with a touch of humor. He will be truly missed!*



Judi Traynor - December 11, 2020 at 08:10 AM

SI

“ I met Pete in the mid 80’s and we became fast friends. I followed him as of late through his Hurricane forecast. Pete was one of the most considerate people I know and he will be sorely missed. To his family, I know you are saddened but rest assured, he loved each of you dearly, every time the two of us spoke, he always wanted to tell me about each of you. God bless you. Steve Isler

Steve Isler - December 11, 2020 at 08:04 AM

TN

“ For over the past decade, since being one of his students, I’ve received his email reports and always look forward to them like an annual greeting. He was an incredible man and a fair and considerate teacher. He will be missed, but never forgotten. Thanks Dr. Ray!

Thomas Nudi - December 11, 2020 at 07:52 AM



“ Dr.Ray’s passing is such sad news for so many. I have had a home on Alligator Point for twenty years and I have gotten up in the middle of the night to see if he had posted an update on a hurricane forecasts. He was so loved and respected, and a person I never met but relied on his information that I felt was honest and the most accurate. I like many others would forward his emails to others. Wishing my best to you in this time of loss and grief.

Kathy Romersa - December 11, 2020 at 07:43 AM

LB

“ I am very sorry your loss. I have never met Dr. Ray, but do receive his Hurricane emails. He was almost always right with his predictions, and my family relied on his predictions more than the National Hurricane Center ones. He was dedicated to providing people with the knowledge and awareness to safely survive hurricanes. He will be greatly missed by many Floridians and others who have never met him, but so looked forward to his emails. May God bless all of his family.

Lee Ann Bradshaw - December 11, 2020 at 07:24 AM

PR

“ I never knew him but relied on him to keep me abreast of storms which made me feel like I knew him. RIP.

peggy Rigsby - December 11, 2020 at 07:20 AM

JW

“ Saddened to hear of Dr. Ray's passing. I anxiously awaited his emails containing his wise forecasts and heeded his warnings for my Chattahoochee home. Forwarded those forecasts to my daughters in the Florida Keys, near Orlando, and in Gainesville, plus a sister-in-law in California and friends in Georgia and North Carolina. I learned of Dr. Ray and his gifts from my husband Bob who faithfully consulted his predictions to help him make decisions statewide with his work in HRS/DCF. Dr. Ray and his wise counsel will be missed by many. My condolences to his family and friends.

Jill Williams - December 11, 2020 at 07:20 AM

HD

“ I have lived in Florida since 1990 and Hurricanes are an annual occurrence. Dr. Peter Ray was our go to resource to stay informed and get regular updates. Often I shared his daily emails with our hospitality database for hurricane updates to our area. Dr. Peter Ray was truly a servant leader and his caring heart to keep us safe has been recognized by so many of us.

Dr. Ray, you did good and we salute you. Enjoy your time in heaven as you will see now the storm season from a distance. Rest In Peace and may God bless you, your family and loved ones.

Thank you,

*Heiko Dobrikow
Executive Vice President / General Manager
The Las Olas Company / Riverside Hotel*

Heiko Dobrikow - December 11, 2020 at 07:19 AM

AR

“ As a Miamian, I too took interest in hurricanes to be aware of their paths for my safety and to be prepared should one be close...or far. I would often pass on the information to my neighbors and family and still do.

I relied heavily on Dr Ray's sharing of his forecasts which to me, were more accurate than others.

R.I.P. Dr Ray, there will be forever memories of you upon each hurricane season.

*Arthur
Aiken, SC*

Arthur - December 11, 2020 at 06:41 AM

JE

“ Debi and I are saddened by the loss of Peter. I enjoyed the little amount of time we did get to spend with Peter and his family. No matter what, we could always get together one night a year. I enjoyed listening to Peter speak. He was so funny.

Jeremy - December 11, 2020 at 06:28 AM

DI

“ I am so sorry for your loss. I loved his forecasts as they were about as accurate as one could get. I am sure he will be a great shining start in the heavens.

Diane in Tampa

Diane - December 11, 2020 at 05:59 AM

DL

“ I was so saddened to learn of Dr. Ray's passing. He will truly be missed. I always shared all of his hurricane forecasts with all of my friends and family. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family. Rest In Peace.

Deb Landsman - December 11, 2020 at 05:39 AM



“ It was with great surprise and sadness when I read the email of Dr. Rays passing. I have followed him for years and have always been comforted in his forecasting and knowledge. I shall miss receiving his emails next hurricane season. Rest in peace.

Carol Jacob - December 11, 2020 at 05:23 AM

AR

“ Truly saddened to hear of Dr Ray's passing. Although I only knew him through his forecasts I was an avid follower. I felt secure in knowing I would always get an educated forecast in a manner that was easy to digest. His humor and wit always showed as well and was much appreciated instead of fear, doom, and gloom. Thank you to his family for letting us know and I pray for your peace in knowing how he was loved by so many.

Anne and Family
Odessa, Fl

anne ridge - December 11, 2020 at 04:31 AM

BR

“ It was with great sadness that I learned of Dr. Ray's passing. I depended on his forecasts because Dr. Ray wasn't an alarmist but instead offered accurate warnings of what was to come. Preparation is important to me.



May the knowledge that Dr. Ray helped so many people bring a sense of comfort and peace to the family. He will be greatly missed by family, friends, and fans.

Blessings,
Barb Rodgers, RN,BSN

Barb Rodgers - December 11, 2020 at 01:01 AM

AS

“ I'm also one of the 5000 followers and live in Virginia. I grew up in Florida and have many family members there. For years Dr. Ray's detailed updates have kept our family informed. You all have my deepest sympathy, prayers, and also many thanks for sharing his time with all of us over the years. Praying for God's perfect peace to surround you as you mourn and miss him.

Alyson Satterwhite - December 11, 2020 at 12:42 AM

DZ

“ Dr. Peter Ray was one of a kind. I loved him and also love his wife Aileen and children. Getting to know him and his family are a blessings. I will forever hold on to the fond memories we had together and all the laughter he brought to so many. I will also cherish the memories and time I spent with Peter serving on committees at the University Center Club. And his hurricane forecasts always brought me comfort because they were always on point. I will never forget the wonderful July 4th parties at his home and the delicious buns he used to bake for us as we gathered at Starbucks during Springtime Tallahassee. My life has been enriched and I am fortunate to have crossed Peter's path. He brought so much joy to my life throughout the years. My prayers are with his wife, children, and family. Rest in peace, my friend. You have indeed left your mark. I will miss you!

Dr. Dhyana Ziegler (Lady D)

Dr. Dhyana Ziegler - December 10, 2020 at 11:59 PM

EM

“ I am saddened to hear of Dr. Rays passing. Prayers for the family for comfort and peace. I've never met Dr. Ray, I like many looked forward to his emails during hurricane season. He was knowledgeable and calming and I deeply appreciated his experienced forecasts. He will truly be missed. Godspeed friend.

Emily Mercado - December 10, 2020 at 11:48 PM

AC

“ I am so sad to hear about Dr. Rays passing. He was one of my most influential instructors at FSU, who later became a great mentor and friend. He was a brilliant man who love to inspire those around him and push them to seek more out of life. He loved his family very much and it showed everytime he spoke of them. Aileen, I wish you and your family the best during this time and pray that you can find peace and comfort in the memories you have.

Anthony Cline - December 10, 2020 at 11:34 PM

DW

“ I was introduced to his emails when I lived in Tampa but traveled to Gainesville each week. I was working on my doctorate and used his forecast to guide my weekly trips during hurricane season. I no longer live in Florida but I read his emails for many years. I will truly missed Peter Ray who had a wonderful gift.

Dr. R. Williams - December 10, 2020 at 11:29 PM

MR

“ Jonathan, I was so sorry to learn about your father. Though I had never met him, I thought of him as a long distance friend and confidant. One of my Florida friends in the North Carolina mountains told me about him many years ago and I followed him religiously during the dreaded “H” season. As a resident of the infamous Outer Banks, I learned earlier on that he foretold what lay ahead of us in North Carolina after the storms departed Florida. I certainly looked forward to and enjoyed his timely emails. I will miss him.

My condolences to your family and he will be remembered.

*Mike Reeves
Southern Shores, NC*

Michael Reeves - December 10, 2020 at 11:22 PM

 Jim
Ramsey

“ Very sorry for your loss. His forecasts kept my family up to date as storms approached Florida. He, and his forecasts, will be missed.

Jim Ramsey - December 10, 2020 at 11:14 PM

MN

“ Words, however kind, cannot mend your heartaches, but those who care and share your loss, and there are many, wish you comfort and peace of mind. May you find strength in the love of family and in the warm embrace of friends.

*Mitch/Joan
Melbourne, FL.*

Mitc/Joan Needelman - December 10, 2020 at 11:08 PM

DC

“ *To the Ray Family:
I personally didn't know Dr. Peter Ray but was one of the 5000 people that received his hurricane forecasts. Living in Florida they were so useful and informative. He will be missed. My deepest sympathy and prayers to your family.*

Darlene Jo Cervik - December 10, 2020 at 11:07 PM

ML

“ *After my father passed away 4 years ago, I took over his marine generator business. I discovered emails from Dr Peter Ray in my father's email account. I have read each and every one since. Richmond County Yacht Club would often send our members his forecasts and advice for us on the east coast. We are on Staten Island in New York. I never met or spoke to him but I'm crying for your loss and will miss his emails. I'm so sorry.*

Michelle Larson - December 10, 2020 at 10:57 PM

LM

“ *We are so sorry for your loss. Dr. Ray's forecasts were always a comfort to those of us on the Gulf Coast during Hurricane Season. We appreciate so much his generosity of time, talent, and treasure to that great service that benefitted many.*

Gary and Lisa Marsh, Pensacola

Lisa Marsh - December 10, 2020 at 10:48 PM



“ *Peter gave me my first full time job in meteorology. Our thoughts go out to the family.*

Bill Cottrill - December 10, 2020 at 09:26 PM

DW

“ Susan, Paul and all the Ray family,
I am so sorry for your loss. Peter was a very special person, and he helped me at the beginning of my career when he offered me access to Doppler radar data at the National Severe Storms Lab, which I used in my thesis. Later in my career, I was so happy to have Christian intern at MIT Lincoln Lab. Peter lived a good life, and brightened many lives. It must be very sad to lose your brother. I hope you all find peace in your sorrow.
All the best, Dr. Marilyn Wolfson
(merely a PhD! ;-D)

Dr. Marilyn Wolfson - December 10, 2020 at 07:43 PM

CS

Hi Dr. Wolfson aka Marilyn,
Been a long time. It was nice to hear from you.
Best Wishes, Dr. Christian Storm

Christian Storm - December 11, 2020 at 02:49 PM

GG

I loved Peter for any number of reasons ... our shared interest in meteorology and the connection with FSU, his efforts in establishing and getting me involved in the ministry outreach of Faith Presbyterian Church at Harbor Chase Assisted Living and the times we shared serving Furthest Pew - another ministry outreach that Peter's hands were all over. If there was a way to show comfort to others, be it through his wisdom in analyzing approaching storms or through giving hope to those dealing with the storms of life, Peter was leading the way. I'll miss our Sunday mornings outside the Parlor at Faith and our conversations that always left me smiling and shaking my head in amazement at the depth of who he was. My deepest condolences to all of you who knew and loved him. I will miss him terribly.

Gary F Griffin - December 13, 2020 at 10:17 AM