



Peter H. Garrity

September 6, 1939 - January 8, 2023

Rye - On Sunday January 8, 2023, Peter "Pete" Garrity decided it was time to join his beloved wife Pauline, after missing her for 8 years.

Born September 6, 1939 in Hanover, NH to Lawrence Garrity and Laura Riley, Pete was one of 6 kids, Mary (Gauthier), James, Lawrence ("Sookie"), Robert, Peter and Carol (Abbott).

Pete was a New England boy through and through, except for his love of the New York Yankees, for which we forgive him. Pete was a natural athlete who used sports to engage, motivate and build relationships with family, friends, rivals and colleagues – and there are many! Pete was co-captain of the Hanover High School football team (two years as "Class C" All State Football), captain of the ice hockey team and a very proud co-captain of the 1957 NH Shriner's Football Team. In 1980 Pete was inducted into the Hanover High School Hall of Fame.

After graduating in 1957, Pete joined the Navy (at age 17) and was stationed at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, where he met and fell in love with Pauline Nickerson, a civilian nurse at the Shipyard Hospital. Pete and Pauline were married in June of 1961. They were married for 53 years.

After the Navy, Pete started working for his friend and mentor, Jack Goodwin,

starting with a retail job at Goodwin Feed and Supply on Deer Street in Portsmouth, NH. In 2003, Pete retired as an owner of Goodwin Oil Company.

Pete and Pauline started their family in Hampton, NH and had 4 kids, Cheryl, Tom, Tim (Kathie Garrity), and Debbie (Mike Clark), before they moved to Rye where they had their 5th child, Tish (Seth Campbell).

Over the course of the next 50+ years in Rye, Pete poured himself into the community. Of course, he was active in coaching the boys' baseball and football and organizing recreational youth activities. Pete was a member of the Rye celebration of the (U.S.) Bicentennial Committee - he and Pauline were an integral part of the 3-day celebration in 1976. Pete was awarded Rye Citizen of the Year in 1979 because of his contributions to the town and its community. Pete was also President of the Portsmouth Kiwanis (1983), President of the Seacoast YMCA (1993 -1998), and Granite State Cluster YMCA Volunteer of the Year in (1998).

Pete could strike up a conversation with a complete stranger and loved his random meet ups at the Rye Transfer Station, his "coffee friends" at the YMCA and the many restaurants that he was a regular at, including Petey's and Betty's Kitchen. Pete stayed physically fit and loved working out at the YMCA and Planet Fitness, where he made fast friends who motivated him to keep moving.

Pete helped everyone and anyone - plowing driveways for friends and strangers (who later became friends) and showing up with his pick-up truck and trailer for moving and hauling.

For as much as Pete loved to take care of others, perhaps his greatest pride and joy was his lawn. You all know this. On any given day you would find Pete out front riding his mower, picking up sticks and every stray leaf. Pete loved

visitors and always had a soda to share in the driveway or by the pool, where he loved hosting family get togethers including his sisters, brothers, cousins, 12 grandchildren, 7 great grandchildren, many nieces, nephews and his chosen family.

In his later years, Pete treated himself to a red Ford Mustang convertible which brought him (and others) a lot of fun and joy, as did Jasmine, Pete's canine buddy who followed him around endlessly.

A special thanks to the Rye Police Department and Rye Fire Department who made sure Pete was always taken care of, as well as to the Portsmouth Hospital Emergency Room, ICU and 4th Floor Staff for taking such great care of him the last couple of weeks.

Pete donated to many local organizations and Gather was near and dear to his heart. We ask that in lieu of flowers, donations be made in Pete's name to Gather Food Pantry by clicking here (<https://gather.networkforgood.com/projects/83383>).

We will be celebrating Pete's life on Saturday, January 21, 2023. Please join us at Remick & Gendron Funeral Home in Hampton, NH for visitation from 10 AM - 12 Noon followed by a brief service at the Rye Central Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Central Cemetery

20 Central Road
Rye, NH

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JAN 21. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Remick & Gendron Funeral Home - Crematory
811 Lafayette Road ·
Hampton, NH 03842
(603) 926-6500
info@remickgendron.com
<https://www.RemickGendron.com/>

Tribute Wall

HT

“ Goodwin Oil came across my mind this morning and happened to see that Mr. Pete Garrity had passed away. My ex husband Rick Terra used to work for them and know they were very dear to him. He definitely enjoyed working for them. My condolences to Tim and Tom.

Heather Terra

Heather Terra - July 17, 2023 at 01:04 PM



“ I knew Pete briefly, meeting him at Planet Fitness. He made a point to say hello and check in every time he saw me and it always started my day off with a smile. I'm sorry to hear of his passing and I'm not surprised to see that he had an impact on so many.
~Christine Carbone

Christine Carbone - January 23, 2023 at 11:48 AM

JH

“ Pete and my father, Alan Harrison, were partners at Goodwin Oil for many years. I know my father considered him a friend. I'm very sorry for your loss. Joann Harrison

Joann Harrison - January 22, 2023 at 09:40 AM

JC

“ Tish and family. So sorry for all your heartache. 🙏❤️

Jeanne Clark - January 22, 2023 at 08:33 AM

TA

“Pete was my neighbor for the past 40 years. I so enjoyed talking to him when he was walking down the street. I will miss him. Tricia Alexander.

Tricia Alexander - January 21, 2023 at 01:54 PM

JL

“As a companion to the fabulous Elaine, I had the added benefit of getting to know her dear friend Pete. His loyalty, kindness, and friendship were appreciable. We could always count on Pete to plow after a storm, stop by for coffee and a chat, or meet us at The 'Horse for a little social gathering. Pete was a man who had his priorities straight; his family and friends were everything to him. --Glad to have spent some time in his company. My condolences to all of his loved ones. Jean Leen

Jean M Leen - January 20, 2023 at 04:02 PM



“133 files added to the album LifeTributes



Remick & Gendron Funeral Home - January 20, 2023 at 10:26 AM

KP

“ *What a lovely tribute to such a nice man! He sure did live life to its fullest. Our family will remember both Pete and Pauline with warmest regards. They were very kind to our family when our kids were little. They opened their home and their pool to us in the summers. A lot of good times were spent with them floating and splashing with Tom and his family. Going to "Nana and Papa's" pool on a hot summer day was the best! Condolences to the Garrity family. Karen, Nathan, Kylie, Connor, and William Paradis*

Karen Paradis - January 19, 2023 at 08:14 PM

AL

“ *I am sorry for the loss of Pete Garrity, he was a very hard working man, like my dad was. Also a neighbor. My thoughts and prayers to Tim and the rest of the family. Alan Ladrie, Rye, Nh.*



Alan Ladrie - January 19, 2023 at 12:08 AM

GH

“ *Both Pat and I remember Pete and Pauline as wonderful neighbors in our little community on Hunterville Ave in the 70's. Our condolences you the whole family on the passing of this fine man. Gary and Pat Holmes*

Gary Holmes - January 18, 2023 at 07:53 PM

PM

“ *I met Pete in the 70's when I was roofing his house in Rye. He was a great guy and I always enjoyed seeing and talking to him over the years. Condolences to the family.*

phip miles - January 17, 2023 at 05:34 PM

AL

“ *Thought and Prayers to you Cheryl, Debbie, Tim, Tom, and Tish. Pete was a great guy and have fond memories when you lived around the corner from us in Hampton. Our folks are probably chatting it up and laughing over a cup of coffee!*



Alan Lajoie - January 16, 2023 at 01:54 PM