

Class of 1993 25th Reunion Gift

When alumni of the Class of 1993 gathered last year for their 25th reunion, they shared both joy in being together and the sadness they felt at the loss of their beloved classmate Peter Wertheim '93. As they shared memories of Peter and the ways he touched their lives, they became determined to fund a gift that would honor his infectious spirit. The effort was coordinated by Pleasance Lowengard Silicki '93 and Annie Stout Leadley '93.

Today you can find a bench, sheltered under the trees near the little pond and the Secret Stairs. The bench bears this inscription:

Given by the Class of 1993

In Memory of

Peter Wertheim '93

August 25, 1977 – May 21, 2017

"Be kind, live in service to others,

Love with your whole heart."

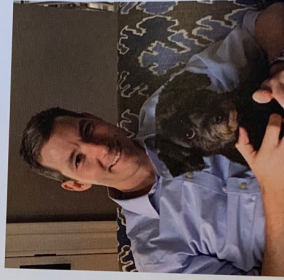
On November 3, 2018, the Renbrook community gathered in the Rentschler Dining Room to remember Peter. Addressing '75 former faculty and students, Pleasance and Annie said, "Peter connected us in so many ways. And this bench will serve for decades to come as a reminder to all of us – and to the students, teachers, and alumni that rest upon it – to take time to connect with each other – to sit together and be present for one another."

It was Peter's extraordinary gift for connection that made him, as one faculty member says, "the glue that pulled his class together." His genuine consideration for those around him, combined with a robust sense of humor, had a lasting impact on everyone who knew him. For Peter, there was joy in solving problems and engaging others in the solutions. He included those around him with ease and grace. In 1998, when he was still in college, Peter gave the Renbrook

Join us at our next Renbrook alumni event!



Barrett Sakow Campbell '93, Jennifer Suismann '93, Pleasance Lowengard Silicki '93, and daughter Saylor, Annie Stout Leadley '93, Nicki Furek Mullin '93, and Jenni Walkwitz Hoffmann '93 celebrate their 25th reunion following a tribute to their classmate Peter Wertheim '93 during Alumni Night 2018.



Peter Wertheim '93 with his dog Wilson

graduation address, sharing his own challenges, the lessons he had learned, and the pleasure he had taken in the journey. Peter went on to a career in urban housing. Working in the office of the mayor of New York City, he continued to bring people together to make things work better. Again, Peter was the glue.

The Class of 1993's gift also helped to make the Renbrook experience a reality for another student by funding the Peter Wertheim Memorial Scholarship, granted to one student with financial need during the 2018-19 school year. And this year's Renbrook Fund Day of Giving, held on November 26, 2019, was seeded by a generous gift from Peter's parents, Mark and Alicia Wertheim P'91 '93 '01. In all these ways, Peter Wertheim's legacy is passed on to the school he loved and that loved him back.

Alumni events are a great way to stay connected to Renbrook School and to network with fellow alumni and friends of Renbrook. Make sure you get an invitation! Update your contact information with the Alumni Office. Call 860.236.1661 ext. 225, email alumni@renbrook.org, or visit www.renbrook.org/classnotes.