
Obituary - Peter Rose



Born in Leicester in 1937, the only child of older parents, Peters early years were quite lonely, and with an ailing mother and father not abroad, but stationed away from home, somewhat austere.

His education began at the local junior school, where he was not considered to be anything special and it was only when WW2 ended and he transferred to a different school across the city that his abilities were recognised. Peter passed the 11+ a year early and began his secondary education at the City of Leicester Boys School. He left there 8 years later with a State Scholarship and a place to read for a Natural Sciences degree at Peterhouse, Cambridge. He was the first person in his family to go on to higher education.

As with all science entrants, Cambridge insisted that Peter should do National Service before taking up his place so that there would be no interruption should he wish to go on to further study after graduation. Hopes that he might make aircrew in the RAF were dashed on account of poor eyesight but Peter was to enjoy spending most of his two years service repairing bomber radios in NW Germany. Backpacking around Western Europe whilst on leave and learning from people who had endured the horrors of Nazi occupation convinced him of the need for countries to work together for peace and harmony.

Peter returned to England in 1957 and took up his place in Cambridge where he enjoyed 3 very full years and made friendships that lasted till the end of his life. On graduation in 1960 he took up a post as a research chemist with Courtaulds in Coventry. They moved him to the NW on opening their nylon plant at Aintree in 1965. Once the plant was functioning satisfactorily Peter became bored with the routine work and left to join IBM in Liverpool in 1967, staying with the company for 3 weeks short of 25 years. In later years it became his proud boast that IBM had

paid him a pension for more years than he had worked for them.

Peter never actually retired in the usually accepted sense. He put his sharp analytical brain and experience to activities such as governorship of Salford Royal Hospital and Xaverian College in Manchester, and participating in local activities including forming interest groups focussing on town planning and health care provision.

Whilst still with IBM Peter took up cross country running with Cheshire Hash House Harriers. By the time he did his last run in 2016 he had completed 950 runs. He ran the London Marathon when he was 61, choosing Motor Neurone Disease as his charity selected because an IBM colleague and also the wife of a brother member of Knutsford Circle had both died of this disease. The Catenians, Probus and Regal bridge club led to valued friendships. Other pastimes included travel, hill walking in Greece, Spain and Italy, music, and latterly, genealogy. He was also an avid reader.

Peter married Jo in 1960. They have two children, four grandchildren and one great grandson. He loved and was very proud of them all and they all miss him very much. Peter died peacefully, as he wished, at home, on February 3, 2019, from conditions following prostate cancer some 8 years earlier, bravely and patiently borne.

MAY HE REST IN PEACE