



Peter Damian Bonam

June 3, 1958 - April 15, 2024

On Monday, April 15, 2024, Peter Damian Bonam, beloved son, brother, uncle, and friend, lost his valiant battle with a rare form of cancer, passing away only a couple of months shy of his 66th birthday: June 3, 1958, at Wake Med Cary, in North Carolina.

Pete was one of eight children born to Marie and Leonelle Bonam – one of two born outside of the United States, on Tachikawa Air Base, Japan. (The other Greg, was born on Torrejón Air Base, Madrid, Spain. (Leon A. Bonam was one of the famed Tuskegee Airmen.)

“Pete, you can never go home again”, the opening salvo in a conversation on the present-day state of his birthplace, Tachikawa Air Base – a conversation which would turn into an epic 3-hour every-thing-under-the-sun phone conversation. (He had already seen ‘Tachi’ photos.) We vowed to one-day go to Japan in search of sets of real-steel: a Daisho Set - Katana& Wakizashi. (The Daisho was a set of long and short swords, worn by Samurai warriors during the Edo period. The long sword is called Katana and the short one is called Wakizashi.) Mom was already monitoring our consumption of “shoot-em-ups” on television - westerns. In Japan “sword-em-ups” were added to that list.

True to his Gemini Mercurial nature, Pete was an intelligent, lively and quick-witted conversationalist. (One of 4 Geminis in the family: Mom, Marie and sisters Anna and Monica.)

Pete was a proud alumnus of Colgate University – as evidenced by his

extensive Colgate memorabilia collection. He was an IT specialist, and migrated to Raleigh NC, with a loyal group of IBM-ers from Boca Raton FL. He was able to work remotely for CEENTA (Charlotte Eye Ear Nose & Throat Associates), with his colleague and friend Jeremie Woodall almost until the end.

Preceded in death by both parents, Leon and Marie and his sister Monica, he leaves behind to mourn his precious life, siblings Leon Bonam, Anna Bonam-Morton (husband Rob Morton), Patrick Bonam, Walter and Jennifer Bonam (Broyard) and Amanda Bonam; brothers Frank Bonam, and Greg and Julie Bonam (Clem) and their children Gabrielle and Garrett; nieces Jessica and Monique Snyder; much loved uncle Francis Xavier "Bobby" Barial – 94 this year! – and a precious family of cousins, friends and neighbors.

Our heartfelt thanks to the staff at Wake Med Cary for their kind and compassionate care for Pete in his final days.

Funeral Mass will be at Saint Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church, 3008 Old Raleigh Rd, Apex, NC Eulogy at 10:45 am and Mass at 11:00am; and streaming on St Andrew's website. [<https://youtube.com/live/9JeNNh8b454?feature=share>]

One of Pete's memorable passions was cooking and baking. We have lovingly shared Pete's signature 'Orange Cinnamon Pound Cake'

Cinnamon Orange Pound Cake

From Pete Bonam

Full Half

Recipe Recipe

1 ½ pound butter at room temperature

1 1/2 cups white granulated sugar

2 1 cups dark brown sugar

9 5 eggs

4 2 cups cake flour (or 2 tablespoons less per cup of regular flour)

2 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
2 1/2 teaspoon orange extract
4 2/3 teaspoon cinnamon
1 1/2 3/4 tablespoons orange zest
1/2 1/4 teaspoon salt

Pre-heat oven to 350 degrees.

Cream sugar & butter until light & fluffy. At least 4 minutes at medium high.

Add eggs one at a time.

Add flour a little at a time until all is mixed in.

Add milk, flavoring and salt. Beat 3 minutes at high speed.

For full recipe bake in greased & floured 10-inch tube pan at 350 degrees for 1 hour and 15 minutes. A toothpick inserted in the center should come out clean. Center should be 210 degrees.

Orange Glaze

(From Alton Brown – Good Eats)

1 teaspoon orange zest
2 1/2 tablespoons orange juice
1/4 teaspoon cinnamon
1/4 teaspoon dark brown sugar
pinch salt
6-oz (weight) powdered sugar
Mix until smooth. Drizzle over cake.

Cemetery Details

St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church Columbarium

3008 Old Raleigh Rd
Apex, NC 27502

Previous Events

Eulogy

APR 26. 10:45 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Andrew The Apostle Catholic Church
3008 Old Raleigh Rd
Apex, NC 27502

Funeral Mass

APR 26. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Andrew The Apostle Catholic Church
3008 Old Raleigh Rd
Apex, NC 27502

Tribute Wall

SM

“ Hi Bonam family, this is Shivangi Menon and I worked with Pete at Cisco. Got to know today that he is no more when I got suspicious that he was not responding to my message since June 11. We met him after his diagnosis in November and shared a good meal and laugh. He was kind and witty and loved desserts, he introduced me to babka. The pound cake recipe mentioned here, I was lucky enough to try that. I can't believe he is gone already, gone too soon, hope you rest in peace my friend.



Shivangi Menon - June 27, 2024 at 11:47 AM

JH

“ I will miss you my friend, You were a breathe of fresh air and always had something nice to say. I'll see you in a while. Heaven had more important tasks for you to tend to.

John Haggerty - May 01, 2024 at 07:13 AM

DR

“ *To the Bonam Family*

It is with great sadness to learn of Petes passing. I still remember our awesome neighbors on Lee Ave in Satellite Beach, the Bonam's! Could not have had better neighbors. We were all quite young back then and each went their own way as time passed but the fond memories will never be forgotten and forever cherished. God Bless each and everyone of you and I pray the Good Lord provides comfort and many blessings to all who knew and loved Pete. If any of the Bonam's would like to reach out to an old friend... danrocque@ymail.com

*May he Rest In Peace and embrace the Kingdom of Heaven
Dan and Lee Rocque*

Dan Rocque - April 29, 2024 at 05:09 PM

ER

“ *5 files added to the tribute wall*



Eric - April 26, 2024 at 08:15 PM

ES

“ *Pete was a kind soul and a true friend of The IBM Boca Gang !!!*

He brought so much wit and laughter to the bunch and was a great friend that will be truly missed by so many of us. He always brought lots of laughter when we had our "Runs to the Surf" and just one of the best people to hang around.

My wife Carol and I will miss him terribly.

RIP my dear friend Pete Bob !!!!

Eric & Carol Starkovich - April 26, 2024 at 08:11 PM

TH

“ *Dear Bonam Family,*

I worked with Pete in IBM world, and He was a rare blend of professionalism and warmth. His was genuine concern for the well-being of others & With great sense of Humor and was a amazing Colleague and a Friend.

Rest in peace, dear friend. You will be deeply missed, but your spirit will live on in our memories .

*With heartfelt gratitude and profound sorrow,
Tj Hosalli.*

TJ Hosalli - April 26, 2024 at 11:02 AM

BR

“ *I worked for years with Pete in IBM. Really enjoyed working with him. He was a good man with a great sense of humor, and was well respected. So sorry to hear he has passed. The world has lost one of the good ones!*

Bill Reilly - April 25, 2024 at 12:05 PM

GF

“ Dear Bonam Family,

I was fortunate to meet Pete at the sad time of your Mother's passing. I am grateful for the brief time spent with him, talking about books, authors, and other things. He was gracious and interesting. I always hoped I'd be able to visit with him again if/when I was in NC.

My heartfelt sympathy is with you his family, and with his dear friends & neighbors. Such a loss for all.

*With love,
Grace Flaherty*

Grace Flaherty - April 25, 2024 at 10:47 AM