

Peace Corps Volunteers, Staff, and Training Staff we served with and worked with who have passed away.

Peace Corps Korea 1st Director Kevin O'Donnell, 2/29/2012

Kevin O'Donnell, Peace Corps/Korea's first director, passed away this morning at 7:10. He also served as director of Peace Corps and provided significant leadership for NPCA and FOK. Funeral arrangements will be announced soon. FOK will post an obituary and information for posting comments for the family. Kevin and his family were touched by the comments received recently on his impact on many lives. May his spirit continue to inspire many of us. Jon Keeton

Director Jim Williams, April 17, 1998

Taken from :Anglers of the Au Sable Issue 29 part 2 1998:

In Memory of Jim Williams: North Branch resident and conservationist, Jim Williams passed away on April 17 of this year. Jim was active in developing the resource management plan for the upper Au Sable, a member of the Nature Conservancy, a member of The Natural Resources Defense Council, The Au Sable North Branch Association, The Wildlife Federation, The World Wild Life Fund, and a member of The Camp Grayling Management Advisory Council. Jim served his country in the Foreign Service and State Department in Thailand, South Korea, and Washington. He was the Director of the Peace Corps in South Korea and later served as Deputy Director in Washington, D.C.

He was an active fly angler and highly accomplished fly tier. He fell in love with the Au Sable while still in his teens and, throughout his life, continued using both physical effort and his knowledge to preserve the river for future generations. His contributions are many, his loss immeasurable."

Director Leo Anthony Pastore, December 13, 1998

Leo Anthony Pastore, 66, an international development consultant and former Peace Corps project coordinator, died of a heart attack Dec. 7 at his home in Falls Church.

Mr. Pastore, who lived in Falls Church off and on since 1985, was involved in local government partnership projects in Poland for the last year while working under a contract with the Agency for International Development. A native of Boston, he graduated from Boston University and served two years in the Army. In 1961, he went to the Philippines as a member of an early group of Peace Corps workers. He met and married Edmee Hawkes Pastore, also a Peace Corps member.

Barbara Dirks, October 24, 2012

Multiple PCK Training Programs

1914-2012 BRATTLEBORO Barbara Dirks, 97 passed away Wednesday Oct. 24, 2012 at Pine Heights Nursing Home, Brattleboro.

She lived an interesting life as an educator, a leader in international training, a Red Cross volunteer, an administrator, and a supporter of arts and music.

Born in New York City in 1914 to Rudolf and Helen Dirks, she and her brother John were part of a family that anchored an artists and writers colony in Ogunquit ME and NYC. Her father, and then her brother wrote and illustrated the cartoon, "Katzenjammer Kids", known later as "The Captain and the Kids"

Barbara graduated from Smith College in 1936 and maintained a lifelong interest in college. She was a Red Cross volunteer during WWII and served in New Zealand and other Pacific areas. After the war, she taught at Sidwell Friends School in Washington DC, and began leading summer groups of students for the Experiment in International Living. Her first group went to Finland. After joining the staff at the Experiment in 1957 she moved in 1959 to San Francisco where she served as the EIL office director. Approached by Lewis and Clark College to set up collaborative programs, she led semester groups to Japan. Returning to Vermont in 1965, she carried out special assignment for the Experiment's School for

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International Training. This included training Peace Corps groups for Korea, Kenya, Marianas Islands and another stint in San Francisco. She was awarded an honorary master of arts in teaching degree from SIT.

I, for one, enjoyed the counsel and gentle advice I received from Barbara in the 4 or 5 training projects I had the pleasure of working on with her. (GLH)

Melvin Mirkin, Taegu Regional Director, December 5, 2002

In Phoenix AZ.

Anne Justice, December 1994

Wife of Dr. Justice

Pak, Hun-Joon Peace Corps Staff,

Administrative Staff

Yun, Soon-Kwon Peace Corps Staff,

Administrative Staff

Kim, Myung-Joo (Mrs. Cho) Peace Corps Staff,

HR

Ki, Yon-Seong, Peace Corps Staff,

Program Staff

Dr. Chu, Un-Bong Peace Corps Doctor

Medical

Lee, Chang-Mok, Peace Corps Staff

Driver

Victor S. Paik, K-3 Staff

Training

Kim, Myo-Dong, K-4 Staff

Training

Jewell Christiansen, K-4 Staff

Training

Darrell Kuhlman, K-4 Staff

Training

Gene McElyea, K-4 Staff

Training

William Patrick Reich, 1973-1975 Education Advisor, passed Dec 2004

He was born in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., and grew up in Trussville, Ala. Beginning at the age of 16, he spent eight years studying for the Catholic priesthood at seminaries in Alabama and Virginia. After leaving the seminary, he graduated from Catholic University.

That year, Mr. Reich moved his family to Seoul, where he served as an education officer for the Peace Corps.

He enjoyed poetry, travel and music and played piano and guitar. Survivors include his wife of 34 years, Kathleen Callahan Reich of Falls Church; two children, Patrick Reich and Caroline Reich

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Prof. Chae Joon-ki, Training Staff on many projects, and good friend of PCK.

March 28, 2014. He was 84. Ed told me that Prof. Chae had been in poor health for some time; his wife died two months ago. He was a retired professor of English at Kyungpook National University, a good friend to all the Volunteers who worked at the Teachers College there. He worked on a number of PC/K training programs, including that of K-26, and was a strong supporter of Peace Corps and of good Korean-American relations.

K-1 Fred Blair, 2005

Fred was known, and loved by many volunteers in many groups. Fred was a K-1, but served on the training staff of many training programs. For a while, he owned a store in Hilo, and worked on several training programs there.

K-1 David Alford, September 7, 2006

From the Korea Times

Idaho native David Alvord III died Monday at Coeur d' Alene, the result of a lingering lung infection [sic: lung flukes he picked up from eating sushi in 2005] he contracted while teaching English in South Korea. He was 64.

He and his former wife Rosemary Kirwin-Alvord served for two years in Korea, were Peace Corps recruiters in Seattle and later held administrative positions in Micronesia.

K-1 David Ezzo, ?

K-1 Lindsey Nahoakapuokalani Pollock, February 2004

Lindsey was a leading Hawaiian cultural authority, marketing consultant and floral designer. He grew up in Kalihii in a large Hawaiian family and was schooled in Hawaiian tradition under the guidance of his aunt, the late Muriel Pono Lupenui. As a successful consultant, he became known for coupling his marketing skills with his island roots.

A graduate of Kamehameha Schools, Pollock earned a journalism degree at the University of Oregon. He served two years with the Peace Corps in South Korea and taught briefly at the University of Hawai'i and the state Department of Education in special education.

K-2 Margot Lizst, ?

K-2 Kat Thompson, 10/14/2008

Ann Preston Grantham Kat Thompson , K II, became Kathryn Ordorica and lived in Newton, MA where she and her husband David raised three fine, artistic children. She worked in the Newton Public Schools with English Language Learners where she was admired by her colleagues for her conscientious approach to everything she did. She died on October 14, 2008 and is missed by her community. I was privileged to work with her.

K-4 Geraldine A. Lane, July 11, 1992

Cancer

K-4 Terry R. Boyle, September 8, 1994

Cancer of the jaw.

K-4 Martha P. Bryant, February 20, 2001

Natural Causes

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- K-4 Carl M Beltt, May 10, 2001**
Injuries from a fall
- K-4 George G. (Greg),**
In Africa
- K-4 Ruth M (Smith) Bolster, August 1, 2005**
Brain Cancer
- K-4 Jack L. Hart, January 25, 2007**
Myelodysplastic Myeloma
- K-4 Barbara L. (Rowland) Mori, February 12, 2012**
Leukemia
- K-5 Alford Melby**
- K-6 Linda Clark, 2009**
- K-6 Nicholas Constant, 2011**
1941-2011 See PDF Remembering Nick, in this section
- K-7 Robert Louis Oakley, 9/29/07.**
Moe Cain Robert Oakley, died 9/29/07. Age 61, was Library Director and a professor at Georgetown University Law Center. <http://www.ll.georgetown.edu/about/oakley/bio.cfm>.
- K-8 Barry Rosenstock, 2008**
Lou Spaventa: "Barry Rosenstock was a K8. K7/K8 trained together, both went to universities. Barry completed service and went home, as did I. Then to our surprise we found ourselves in the same training group in 1973, after being away from Korea for nearly two years, we both decided to join again. I was married with a 10 month old child. Barry had his classical music tapes. We saw a lot of each other in Seoul during those years. Later Barry went to Japan to work." Paul Hoff: Barry had some trails that he frequented on the weekends in the mountains west of Tokyo. He did not show up for work on Monday at his new job and the police were contacted. He was found later that day on the mountain. We suspect he fell and passed out. Probably died from exposure there on the mountain overnight.
- K-8 Bill Ryan, ?**
Louis J Spaventa: "I'd like to add the name of Bill Ryan to that list. According to Joe Nowakowski, Bill passed away a few years ago. He was still teaching at a university in Seoul, having been there most of the past 40 years. Bill had an operatic voice and a love for the glass. He shared both with me on many occasions."
- K-10 Faith Marie Zuranski (Kinkel), May 1998**
Faith and her husband died at the hand of a student.
- K-13 Jake Elfsen, June 5, 1995**
Jake, a K-13, served on K-24 training staff.
- K-13 Mark Pyeatt, June 12, 1988**
Mark, a K-13, also served on the K-24 training staff.

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K-13 Mike Erickson, November 15, 2013

Mike, a K-13, worked on the training staff of K-24, K-31 and was the Project director for K-32. Mike was born Jan. 23, 1947, at Concordia, Kan., to Leo and Barbara (Cooper) Erickson. Mike wanted to be remembered more in life as a teacher, a father and a husband. "I loved my life, I loved my wife, and I loved all the critters that blessed our life."

Mike taught Math at Grand Island High School (Neb) for 29 years, and was survived by his wife Lori (for 31 years), and; children and spouses, Sarah and Reiny Dickhaut, Spencer Erickson, Alexander and Sara Erickson, Evan Erickson, Quinn Erickson and Alison Erickson, all of Grand Island, and Grady and Laura Erickson of South Royalton, Vt.; brother and sister-in-law, Galen and Jill Erickson of Lenexa, Kan.; and grandchildren, Gavin and Aubree Dickhaut.

K-13 Donna Hake, ?

May 19, 1947

K-13 Sonia de la Fe, October 21, 2013

September 19, 1947 – October 12, 2013. Sonia, an integral member of K-13 passed as a result of a massive heart attack on October 12, 2013 in Houston with her son, Matthew McGee was at her side. Sonia lived a full life, helping and volunteering in her community right up to the end. She was a proud and active member of the Red Hat Society (Sosa Sisters Chapter in Houston) and an active worker for political campaigns, election volunteer, and census worker.

K-14 Jeanne Collins, October 6, 2012

Jeanne Collins, beloved wife, mother, and Nana, passed away early in the morning on October 6, 2012. Her devoted husband Tom was, as always, by her side. In her last days she was surrounded by countless friends and family.

The Peace Corps led her to South Korea, and ultimately to the love of her life. Tom and Jeanne married in Seoul, South Korea on April 28, 1973. They returned to the U.S. in 1973 after a tour of Asia that included everything from the beaches of Bali to coffee shops in Kabul.

In the last fourteen years of her life, Jeanne never battled cancer. Rather, in her usual style, she added a side car to her motorcycle, inviting cancer to come along as she traveled to many places with her husband and the family she loved so much. They went on an African Safari, swam with penguins in the Galapagos Islands, fished in the streams of New Zealand, rode camels in Egypt, and even returned to Korea.

Jeanne loved fly fishing and did so in the cool rivers of Colorado at any chance she got. In true form, Jeanne was trout fishing in Colorado just a week before she passed, an oxygen tank beside her no more cumbersome than a cooler of beer. Jeanne's matter of fact attitude and her determination to put cancer on the back burner of life gave countless women in her Stage IV breast cancer support group the hope that they too could cope with late stage cancer. It is impossible to count the number of women Jeanne guided.

Jeanne also served on several Training Programs.

K-18 James Ernest Page, Nov 21, 2001

Lakewood, Cuyahoga, - Paul Arndt, can you help out here?

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K-19 Dennis Phillip Callahan, Jan 26, 2005

Dennis Phillip Callahan was born in Santa Monica on April 24, 1947. He had been a resident of Manhattan Beach for the past 54 years. He was preceded in death by his parents Jim and Virginia Callahan. He is survived by his brother, David (Carlene) Callahan; niece Kelli Rigby and Casie Hyde of Manhattan Beach.

Dennis graduated from Mira Costa High School, California State University Long Beach, and University of Southern California. He served in the Peace Corps in Korea from 1971 through 1974. He worked for the Veterans Administration, West L.A. as a Regional EEO Officer from 1974 until retirement in 2002. Dennis will always be remembered as a kind and caring person who will be greatly missed by his family and friends.

K-24 Michael V. Brady, November 26, 2011

Donald Kumler: Mike was a special man who touched many of our lives as a friend and board member of the Friends of Korea, and as a father, friend, social worker in Chicago and Co-Executive Director of Metropolitan Family Services Southeast Chicago Center since 2007. His bio there says it well: "His success as a skilled leader in program development and administration stems from his early work with the Peace Corps to his oversight of multiple group homes for individuals with developmental disabilities."

Eric Dean: very sad news. Mike was the perfect Peace Corps volunteer--a person who exuded intelligence, curiosity, a sense of humor, patience, and good will. He could bridge the cultural gap by the force of his decency, and do many good works, which were much appreciated and much to his credit as a human being. I will miss you, Mike.

James Tielsch I feel like I've been punched in the gut. Brady and Mandel were like older brothers to this young K-28 in Cholla Nam Do. It just ain't fair...

K-24 Tom Roller, (1975 or 1976)

Stephen Mandel: Left Korea early for health reasons. Remained very proud of his service in the Peace Corps and very attached to his fellow K-24's. Fun fact about Tom: He was in the Phillipines at the time Apocalypse Now was filmed there and participated in several crowd scenes(not that I could ever make him out).

K-25 Allen Chernin, 1985

Allen Chernin (born 17 March 1951, Hofstra University) was based in Kumsan (Geumsan), Chungcheong Nam Do. It was a small and out-of-the way place. Allen didn't seem to feel appreciated in the school and he called the town "Scumsan". I might have been the closest K-25 to him as the crow flies but the "travel was not very convenient." Allen went up to Seoul whenever he could. He left after a year and then taught English at the YMCA in Kobe, Japan, for several years. He had a large group of Japanese friends. I visited him there. He married a lovely young lady named Satchiko and they had a son who is a spitting image of him. They visited us in the Phillipines in the early 80s. After Allen passed away my wife and I communicated with Satchi but we lost touch with her. I think she lives near San Francisco. Allen was a very bright, witty and insightful character. I missed him when he left Korea, but I think he made the right decision. RIP Allen.

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K-25 Karen Lee Batchelor,

Passed away in her sleep at her home in Cotati, CA, on December 20, 2013, after a three year battle with cancer. Karen was born in 1948 to Harold Wintersteen and Jewel Durham, in Oregon City, OR. Her mother Jewel remarried to Floyd Batchelor when Karen was only four years of age and raised her as his own. To her, he was Dad, she loved and adored him. She will be missed, but never forgotten by her family: her son Travis Moncada of Petaluma, CA, and his wife Isabelle and their two children Nikolas and Jolene, her daughter Virginia Moncada of New York, NY, her sister Jeanette of Newburg, OR, her father Floyd of Newburg, OR and by her many loving friends. As a child Karen loved to read, write and play with her two younger siblings, Lloyd and Jeanette. As a teenager she fell in love with poetry and excelled in school and graduated from Lowell High School in San Francisco. At the age of 24, she volunteered for the Peace Corps and was stationed in South Korea for two years, from 1972-1974. Upon her return to the States, she began teaching ESL at San Francisco City College. In 1981, she earned her Master's Degree from San Francisco State University. Karen eventually retired from teaching in 2009, after a 35 year career. In addition to teaching ESL, she also trained other fellow teachers for numerous local Bay Area Universities and the US State Department in developing countries. She spent time in Bulgaria, Czech Republic and Bolivia, helping train local educators in those developing countries. Karen was also an author of eight textbooks, several short stories, essays and poetry. She wrote a novel, Murder at Ocean View College, which was published in 2006. Her love for writing continued through her last months of life and continues to live through her various pieces of work. Karen enjoyed life, was helpful, kind, giving, caring, adoring, self-less and most of all a loving grandmother, mother, mother-in-law, sister and daughter. She made many life-long friends along her journey, who she also loved. A celebration of her life will be held in early 2014. Adobe Creek Funeral Home in Petaluma.

K-28 Gail Malbon, January 4, 2011

Gail died peacefully January 4, 2011 after a five-year battle with pancreatic cancer, at the age of 61. Gail was the loving daughter of the late Harold and Cecelia L. (Kadish) Malbon. Gail was a resident of Bridgewater since 1953 and was a graduate of B-R High School, Class of 1967, and received a bachelor's degree in Biology in 1971 from Northeastern University. She was a registered clinical laboratory technologist with the American Society of Clinical Pathologist. Gail joined the Peace Corps in 1972 and served in both The Gambia, West Africa, building a blood bank and in Taegu, South Korea, as an epidemiologist with the national tuberculosis control service. She was fluent in Korean and French. After returning to the United States, she worked in blood banking for the New England Deaconess Hospital and the Labey Clinic. She enjoyed sewing, teaching both garment construction and quilt making, and she had mastered the Aran knitting technique of Ireland.

K-29 Robert J. Mashburn, April 25, 1995

Robert J. Mashburn, 44, former director of the International Institute at the Department of Agriculture Graduate School, died April 25 at home in Washington.

Dr. Mashburn was born in Gadsden, Ala. He graduated from the University of Alabama and received a master's degree in international administration from the School for International Training in Vermont and a doctorate in education from Columbia University.

Before moving to the Washington area in 1980, he was a Peace Corps volunteer in Korea, a technical language trainer in Saudi Arabia and a professional associate at the cultural learning center of the East West Center in Honolulu.

In Washington, he worked for AMIDEAST, an educational and training exchange organization; the Embassy of Thailand; and the Association of International Educators. In 1984, he became director of the International Institute at the USDA Graduate School. He retired there on disability in 1993.

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K-31 Lee Levis, June 16, 2005

Lee Cannon Levis passed June 16, 2005 at age 53. A man who always lent a hand and a heart, Lee had an infinitely compassionate soul and genuine warmth which touched all who knew him. Mary, Lee's life-long love since age 18 and wife of 33 years, children Ben, Josh and Kay and daughter-in-law, Lindsey were his life's passion. Their lives, dreams and interests became his own as they shared life's journey as a family. Lee proudly coached Ben's baseball teams as well as Kay's lacrosse teams, while serving as Scout Master during his son Josh's days as a Boy Scout. Lee was also joined in life by his father, Charles Jackson Levis, Sr. and his brothers, Charles "Stretch" Levis, Jr., Scotton Levis and Linden "Win" Levis. He was preceded in death by his mother, Anne Swain Levis and his sister, Kathryn Elisabeth Levis.

Lee worked with fierce compassion and dedication in varied roles throughout his career of 29 years, serving the children and families of Maple Shade Youth & Family Services, Inc.

A graduate of Abington High School in Pennsylvania, Lee achieved standing as an All American athlete in both swimming and lacrosse. He would once again achieve the same status as an All American lacrosse player while a student at the University of Delaware. Lee spent each of his four summers throughout college as a lifeguard in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware. After his graduation in 1973, Lee and his young wife, Mary, served as Peace Corps volunteers in South Korea for 2 years.

Lee was a listener, a writer, a soul searcher, a teacher and ultimately a friend to all. He touched our hearts and thoughts. He will be missed, but ever present.

K-40 Bill Gerity, 2000

K-41 Mark Pass

K-41 Steve Lonsberry, 2003

K-45 Tim Warnberg,

K-46 Etoile Hobbs, Sept. 19, 2000

Etoile Bassett Hobbs of Corvallis, (BENTON CO.) 88, died at the Mennonite Home in Albany on Sept. 19, 2000. She was born Nov. 23, 1911 in Neshoba County, Miss., to James Burrell Bassett and Minnie Gully Bassett. She did postgraduate work at the University of Mississippi from 1966 to 1968.

In 1978, she joined the Peace Corps and taught English in Kabul, Afghanistan until she was evacuated because of the Russian invasion. She was reassigned to teach at Dae Lim Junior College in AnYang, South Korea until 1980. In the mid-1980s, she rejoined the Peace Corps to teach English at the University of Utaradit, Thailand.

In 1993, she returned to Corvallis to live with her daughter. She was preceded in death by her parents, six brothers, and three sisters.

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K-46 Joseph Ruffin, March 23, 2014

April 1, 1955 - March 23, 2014 OKLAHOMA CITY Born in Gotemba, Japan, to parents Dr. Joseph Bernard Ruffin & Vestina Provencio Ruffin, Joe spent his childhood in Oklahoma City and graduated from Classen High School ('73) and then the University of Oklahoma ('78). Joe's time after college in Korea with the Peace Corps ignited his lifelong passion for defending the rights of others, which would fuel his life's work as a criminal defense attorney (OCU Law '87). While he was a dedicated professional, Joe was a man devoted to his family. As the oldest brother of six, he influenced and inspired his siblings to achieve and give to others. As a husband and father, his thoughtfulness, sensitivity and dedication will always be lovingly remembered. Memories of Joe's sense of humor and larger-than-life personality will sustain all who loved him.

K-48 Deborah Waitz, 2008

From William Amos: In memory of Deborah Waitz, K-48 leprosy volunteer, who passed away in 2008. She terminated from PC early to attend medical school and was a respected oncologist to the very end. RIP