

Peter Jack Hawkins, PHD, died December 11, 2009. A life celebration was held in the Chapel at The Springs at Tanasbourne in Hillsboro on Monday.

Peter was born in Bradford, Yorkshire, England on the 13th of August 1922 to Annie Mary German Hawkins RN and Alfred William Hawkins, a Scientific Instrument Maker. The family moved to Hull, Yorkshire where Peter attended Hull Grammer School as a scholarship student. Peter said that he was provided with an education for life by Hull Grammer School and the BBC (British Broadcasting Service), his mother who wouldn't let him go out to see the girls until he had done his lessons, and his Father who quoted Shakespear and Gilbert and Sullivan, and encouraged family projects such as marionette carving and family presentation of shows in the local community halls.

Following Grammer School Peter was employed in a margarine factory as a chemist. His position in supplying food for the nation was ranked as national service and he worked throughout the war while living in London.

Peter received his PHD from University College London in 1950. He spent two years as a Postdoc at Rochester University, Rochester, N.Y. under Dean Stanley Tarbell. In 1952, he married Patricia Barrett and began his 32 year teaching career in organic chemistry at Oberlin College. Michael Kirby Hawkins and Derek Andrew Hawkins grew up with their parents in the college town of Oberlin, Ohio. He retired in 1984, and moved to Tennessee.

Peter applied his love of wood working to classes for young children to give them the individual pride of accomplishment in creating their own wooden toys. In 1991 he was honored by the Boys and Girls Club as Volunteer of the Year. Peter organized similar classes at the Community Center and at Roser Memorial Church in Anna Maria, Florida where he and his wife, Marilyn, spent winters, and at the Youth Club of Sherborne, Dorset, England where they spent summers.

Theatre was always part of Peter's passion and he gave many hours to theatre at Hall Auditorium in Oberlin and Workshop Players in Vermillion, Ohio. He continued to built sets and plan and set lights at the Anna Maria Island Playhouse and Roser Chapel Players in Florida and at Community Players of Sherborne, Dorset. Although Peter claimed to be a "stagehand", he joined Marilyn on stage a number of times and the audiences Loved him.

Peter was also very interested in History of Place. He helped to secure the old school house in Bethesda, Tennessee for the community and helped start a Senior Citizens center in one section and a Museum of Rural history in the other section. He and Marilyn worked with a few local volunteers to clean, paint, gather artifacts, label and display. Peter was meticulous. When Anna Maria Island, FL began a museum effort Peter was with the beginning group, gathering and labeling. He constructed a "Fire Truck" for an Island Volunteer Fireman appreciation day.

In Sherborne , England the museum was a well established entity so Peter worked in the archives documenting and helping set up for computerizing the files.

Peter put his expertise in Stage design and in things historical by restoring three historical houses. A lovely Victorian in Bell Buckle, TN, near Web College, a stone cottage in the stable area of Sir Walter Raleigh's Castle, Sherborne, England , and one of the first houses in Anna Maria, built in 1922, an adobe style house on the first shell road in Anna Maria City. In all cases he tore up and replaced floor boards , rebuilt windows and frames and in general worked to make the past live and to make the house his home.

In 2002 they sold the "English Cottage" and began staying in Saint Anne de Bellview, Montreal, CA. enjoying the music and theatre there, and the antiquity, and visiting his brother, Roy in the VA hospital. Peter wanted to return to Oregon in 2005. He had loved the green trees and the rough and ready feel of the State when he visited in Eugene. And he wanted to be close to the Litterer children. Peter and Marilyn have lived in Independent Living at The Springs at Tanasbourne since June of 2009.

Peter was preceded in death by his mother and father and twin brothers Roy and Derek.

Survivors include his wife, Marilyn, sons, Michael of St. Petersburg, FL and Derek of Nashville, TN, step-family Thomas Litterer, his wife, Tracy and children, Emily and Jake of Hillsboro, OR and foster-grand daughter Patricia Chandler and her daughter , Shy Ann of Henderson, KY.

Remembrances to Roser Memorial Community Church, Anna Maria, Florida , P.O. Box 247, Anna Maria, FL 34216

Or to Anatomical Research Fund OHSU (Oregon Health and Science University), School of Medicine; 3181 S.W. Sam Jackson Park Road; Portland, OR 97239 - 3098