



Peter Colby Gruenberg

September 27, 1951 - September 10, 2022

Dr. Peter Gruenberg, 70, dedicated husband, father, grandfather and friend passed away September 10th at his home in Winter Park, FL. Born September 27, 1951 in Evanston, IL, Peter graduated from Glenbard West H.S. and was awarded degrees from Carleton College and The University of North Carolina Medical School. He went on to complete a residency in Ophthalmology from The Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary. It was in Boston that he met the love of his life, Mary Ann. A coast to coast courtship ensued as Peter completed his fellowship in Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus at The Jules Stein Eye Institute at UCLA.

The two moved to Florida to join The Florida Eye Clinic, where Peter became the third partner in one of the first multispecialty eye practices in the United States. He spent 39 years growing the clinic, along with his partners and dedicated staff, into one of the most successful and respected independent practices in Florida. Peter loved hearing his patients' life stories beyond their eye concerns and would surprise them by remembering those stories years later. Along with his busy clinic schedule, he began screening uninsured premature infants in the Orlando area. Many of these babies became lifelong patients and Peter enjoyed watching them grow into adulthood.

Peter had an encyclopedic knowledge of music and a collection to match. Although he had to be nudged into the tech revolution, he made sure his iTunes collection reflected that vast knowledge. Above all things, Peter adored his wife and three children. He never let work distract from that devotion and

made sure they were surrounded by joy and adventure. He cherished each child's growth extolling a first cross of the monkey bars with a triumphant "Look what 8 can do!" He shared his love of history, politics, geography and astronomy with them over nightly family dinners and, later, frequent text messages. His children never had to refer to the news for a daily weather report or the timing of a rocket launch. He always said during the dozens of family trips both near and far, "Let's do it! We may never be this close again."

Peter was the beloved husband of Mary Ann, father to Christopher Gruenberg, Katherine Gruenberg Lemire (Donald), Victoria Gruenberg, and grandfather to Milo Peter Lemire. Peter is preceded in death by his parents, Robert P. and Imogene (Chandler) Gruenberg and brother Dr. James Gruenberg. He is also survived by his sister, Imogene Zimmerman, and many loving nieces and nephews. Services will be held on Saturday September 24th, 2022, 10 AM, at St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church, 426 N. Park Avenue, Winter Park, Florida. Reception to follow. Burial private.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to The Robert P. and Imogene C. Gruenberg Scholarship Fund, High Point University, High Point NC 27268 engage.highpoint.edu or Massachusetts General Hospital, Brain Tumor Stem Cell Lab, 185 Cambridge <https://www.massgeneral.org/neurosurgery/research-and-clinical-trials/brain-tumor-stem-cell-lab>

Previous Events

Service

SEP **24.** 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church (Chapel)
526 N Park Ave
Winter Park, FL 32789

Tribute Wall

DC

“ Dr Gruenberg I met shortly after I got married. He was with me thru both children. Later on when they were grown and I would go to see him, he would always ask how they were doing. He always remembered their names. He was very interested in my daughter Kristen’s education and career choice. I am so sorry I did not hear of his passing as I would have attended his service. I am sorry for your loss. His dedication to patients was beyond measurable. Thank you Greenberg family for sharing your father and his dedication to medicine. May he rest in peace.

Dawn Cioce - August 19, 2025 at 01:02 PM

EK

“ Dr. Gruenberg was my son's pediatric Ophthalmologist from the time my son was 4 until he was 18. He was an excellent doctor and we felt that he had provided a specialized care plan for my son. He really made a positive impact in our lives. I was very sorry to learn of his passing -- my sincere condolences to his wife and family.

Elizabeth Kilgore - November 08, 2024 at 11:32 AM

PM

“ Pete was a classmate at med school chapel hill, he was much younger than me. I talked incessantly about Ophthamology as we worked out together. I am shocked and saddened. Don McCurdy

Patti Mccurdy - March 20, 2023 at 09:26 PM

MR

“ So sad to hear about his death. He was an amazing Doctor and Man. I worked for him back in 1998 ish. His passion for those premie babies. I remember him be so generous and bringing bagels for all the staff. He was a truly amazing.

Melissa Reed - February 09, 2023 at 07:20 PM

LB

“ We met Dr. Gruenberg in 2006, just before my son turned two. We were recommended to him by a close friend and a colleague. Dr. Gruenberg made a visit to a specialist for my son possible by contacting his college friend working in Baltimore at Johns Hopkins. He literally worked magic for us. We enjoyed chatting with him at our yearly appointments. We were devastated to learn of his passing. The world lost a great man, but heaven gained an angel. Prayers for all of his family.
With deepest sympathies-The Boshek family

Liz Boshek - October 18, 2022 at 04:48 PM

RM

“ Our condolences to the Gruenberg family. My husband and I arrived in the Orlando area during the year 2010. Dr. Gruenberg became our eye doctor. We will greatly miss him. He was always so personable, and we always felt we were his only patient for the day. He did have a great memory and enjoyed engaging conversation with my husband concerning the military since he was retired Army. We always knew that we could count on Dr. Gruenberg for excellent care.
LTG (retired) and Mrs. Benjamin R. Mixon

Rhonda Mixon - October 05, 2022 at 03:57 PM

NS

“ Pete and I went to high school together at Glenbard West in the Chicago Western suburbs. I remember him for his brilliance, his sharp wit, and his love of fun. Since I have heard this news, the world has become a lonelier place. Miss you Pete. Love to your family.

Norman Swett - September 29, 2022 at 09:44 AM

RN

“ My condolences to Dr.Gruenberg’s family. He was an excellent physician and always amazed me with his memorles of our family stories....Rest in Peace, Dr. Gruenberg. You helped so many of us with your care and knowledge.

ruffin Snyder Nesmith - September 25, 2022 at 07:55 PM

WF

“ Dr. Gruenberg has been our eye doctor for 35 years. We first took our son (now 38) to him when he was a toddler. He was an excellent doctor and a kind man. I was always amazed that he would remember details about my occupation and ask me questions about it. In this day an age it is difficult to find a doctor you can fully trust, he was definitely one and will be truly missed. I pray that God will comfort your family during this time of loss.

Walker Family - September 25, 2022 at 07:55 AM

CB

“ Dr. Gruenberg was an excellent physician and always thorough. I am so sorry to hear of his passing. As a patient of his, I was humbled that he never forgot to ask me how my Dad's estate was coming along and how was our farm doing in Iowa. What a kind man. My heart goes out to his family and co-workers and friends during this time of loss. Prayers of comfort for all.

Connie L Bearden - September 24, 2022 at 11:09 AM

KA

“ Kay lit a candle in memory of Peter Colby Gruenberg



Kay - September 23, 2022 at 04:12 PM

TK

“ As I read this, I realize how woefully inadequate my efforts are to convey just what a special person Peter was and what a good friend I had in him. Everyone who reads this will have seen Peter from their own perspective. We each delude ourselves into thinking that we are the same person to all we meet. But really, the person we are is different to our family, to our friends to our co-workers and to others with whom we interact as they perceive us, filtered through their own life experiences. As each of us thinks of the Peter we knew, there will be a more complete picture than I could possibly provide.

Peter lived his life with integrity and adherence to his core values; so, I believe the fuller picture of Peter will have common themes concerning his fundamental decency, his brilliance, his wit, his integrity, his enormously curious intellect, and his unfailing support for those he knew.

I hope my efforts add a little to that picture. I hope we will all keep telling his story since I believe than none of us are truly gone as long as people speak our name and tell our stories. We should do that because Peter truly was a person to be admired and to be emulated.

Tom Kane - September 23, 2022 at 10:07 AM

PD

“ *Dr Gruenberg was my eye doctor for 30 years! What a great doctor and person...I am so sorry for the loss.*

Patti Hay Dietz - September 23, 2022 at 09:19 AM

DP

“ *Mary Ann, Katharine, Chris and Victoria, I am so very sorry for your loss. Dr. Gruenberg was a good man and leaves a great legacy. Love to all*

Diane Plate - September 23, 2022 at 08:58 AM

CB

“ *Condolences to the family from Warren, Cathy and Jayce Brown at Santa's Trees.*

Cathy Brown - September 23, 2022 at 08:13 AM