



## Peter Lindenbaum

November 4, 1938 - January 20, 2010

Peter Lindenbaum, of Bloomington and London, England, died at his Bloomington home on Wednesday, after a long battle with cancer. He was 71. Born in New York City, he was educated at Harvard College, the University of Cambridge, and the University of California at Berkeley. From 1967-2003, he taught at Indiana University, where he was a professor of English and a founder of the History of the Book and Renaissance Studies programs. His published work focused on the poet John Milton and, more recently, on writers' contracts and the construction of reading audiences in the seventeenth-century book trade, on which he wrote a series of seminal articles. He also had a special interest in modern libraries of rare books. At Indiana, he was active in faculty governance and the recruitment of graduate students, while always sustaining a deep commitment to undergraduate teaching. After retirement, he lived in London, where he enjoyed affiliations with the University of London at the Institute for English Studies and Royal Holloway College. In the course of his career, he held fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation, the Folger Library, the Bibliographical Societies of Great Britain and America, and the Mellon Foundation. He is survived by his wife Sheila, his son John, his daughter-in-law Sarah Reed, and his parents-in-law Joseph and Wanda Serio. Memorial contributions can be made to the Lilly Library at Indiana University or to the Neely House ([www. camneelyfoundation.org/](http://www.camneelyfoundation.org/)), a residence for cancer patients and their families in Boston MA. Allen Funeral

Home 4155 South Old Highway 37 is handling arrangements and online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.allenfunerlhome.org](http://www.allenfunerlhome.org)

# Tribute Wall

BR

“*Sheila, I just learned about Peter's departure. I'm sorry for your loss, and I always think fondly of the time I was the undergraduate secretary for the IU English Department, and of you and Peter as a wonderful couple of role models for me. I wish I could apologize to him for the time that he needed his Shakespeare and when I sent it to him, he only got the paper covering. I have thought of him, and you, often over the years, and I will always cherish the time I got to spend among the literary greats.*

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**Brad Stiles** - October 26, 2015 at 04:37 PM

DA

“*Dear Sheila,*

*We haven't been in touch for a few years, but this afternoon I was thinking about you and Peter and so looked Peter up online and found this page. I often recall how much Gerald liked and admired Peter, who was one of his most favorite people from his years in Bloomington, and also of the lovely evening my sister and I spent having dinner with Peter in London maybe 4 or 5 years ago?*

*I hope all is well with you and the rest of the family.*

*Love,  
Daphne*

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**Daphne Patai** - October 26, 2015 at 04:37 PM

EC

“*I am so sorry to hear about Peter's death and want to send condolences to Sheila and John also from my son Tom. Our thoughts are with you. With best wishes, Edda Callahan*

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**Edda Callahan** - October 26, 2015 at 04:37 PM

GL

“ I am so sorry to hear the news. Peter was a mentor and endlessly helpful in regard to my teaching Overseas Studies courses in London and a gracious and good-humored person who I wish I'd known better.

John, I hope you are doing ok. It must be a hard time and I hope you will be good to yourself, and I hope things are going well for you in general. I am sorry that this is the occasion for getting back in touch.

All best, Glenn

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**Glenn Gass** - October 26, 2015 at 04:37 PM

SM

“ Dear Sheila and John, we are thinking of you. Hope you are able to take some comfort in the fact that Peter no longer has to suffer. We remember such good times with him. He was always my most supportive Board member at Montessori. No one else said "whatever you are for, I support you" with such reassuring regularity. No one was a more enthusiastic skier or loved celebrating the adventure more. We feel so fortunate to have had those good times with him. He will be missed, his humor, his great ability to listen and even his absent minded "professoriness" Very endearing friend.

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**sterling and melinda doster** - October 26, 2015 at 04:37 PM

DI

“ Dear Sheila:

*I was deeply saddened to learn of Peter's passing. I had not seen him (or you) since his retirement, but I thought of him often.*

*Peter was the first IU English professor to teach in the London IES summer Program, a connection which I developed through Overseas Study in the early '90s; and he was extraordinary. In fact, it was Peter's outstanding teaching on that program, and his great energy and commitment in promoting it to IU students, that were the keys to its overwhelming success in subsequent years. We were so successful that we had to cap enrollments so that the program did not become simply an IU adjunct abroad, as IES wanted more diversity in its clientele. We had many excellent teachers in later years, but Peter set the standard and is, for me and others, the enduring image of that program.*

*I remember that it was only a few months before that London trip when Peter discovered his cancer; and he was anguished that he might not be able to travel. But his wonderful spirit and good treatment at that stage prevailed, and he was a star in London.*

*Peter was also a long time member of my Overseas Study Advisory Council, where I greatly valued his thoughtful and careful evaluations of new programs and policies*

*Finally, I remember a lovely retirement party at your house for Al and Linda David, to which I was quite honored to be invited and where I very much enjoyed talking with you and Peter.*

*My thoughts and condolences are with you at this difficult time, Sheila.*

*best wishes,*

*Dick Stryker*

**Dick Stryker** - October 26, 2015 at 04:37 PM

JS

“ *Dear Sheila--*

*I really admired Peter as a scholar and teacher. Please know my thoughts are with you.*

*Janet Sorensen*

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**Janet Sorensen** - October 26, 2015 at 04:37 PM