

Peter Mott – Three Facebook Posts

SONJA LIVINGSTON:

At age 66, nine months after open heart surgery, Peter Mott flew into the southern Mexican jungle as an international observer to help protect a Mayan village surrounded by army paratroopers and threatened with destruction. At age 69, he helped organize and load vans with 500 tons of medical supplies for the neediest citizens of Cuba. At age 72, he wrote a book, *Cancer in the Body Politic*, calling for the necessity of health care for all.

No, Peter Mott isn't a character from a novel or film. He was my mild-mannered father-in-law who passed away this week, after a lifetime working, alongside his partner Gail, on behalf of the poor.

Before retirement, Peter ran the Regional Medical Program which oversaw care to a 7-county region before working at St. Mary's, where he served Rochester's most at-risk populations. He was the first board-certified geriatrician in the region and Assistant Medical Director at Monroe Community Hospital. In fact, Peter Mott may be a familiar name to many Rochestarians because of the letters to the editor on issues of health care and social justice he wrote faithfully for years.

Peter Mott did this and a thousand other good works. And while his work is inspiring and impressive, I admired Peter most of all for his way with others. He fiercely advocated for those oppressed by politics, race or religion—but was the gentlest man I've ever known. From his love for Gail, his partner of over sixty years, his children and grandchildren, and neighbors in the 19th ward—Peter was an example of quiet strength and generosity to all. He was a dedicated peacemaker and one of the rare and wonderful human beings who practiced peace at the source.

I was the luckiest daughter-in-law in the world.

THOMAS WARFIELD:

My prayers go out to Gail Mott and family at the passing of beloved Peter Mott this morning Peter and Gail have been living angels in this community for decades. There has not been a peace march, a human rights rally or a gathering for social justice where the Mott's have not been present and integral. Their support and encouragement of me personally and of my work in the community over these many years has been a guiding and inspirational light in my life. Thank you Peter for the countless blessings.... you are a blessed spirit

WANDA SCHUBMEHL:

From what you have said about him, and what I've come to know about some of his commitment and the congruence between his principles and his actions, he was a remarkable human being. It is not easy to be clear in one's ethics these days, and to live them on a daily and sacrificial basis is very difficult.