Dr. PETER J. HAEN, remembered

Dr. Peter Haen passed away on March 13, 1994, after a valiant two-year battle with pancreatic cancer. The Biology Department lost a great colleague, professor and friend.

Peter and I got to know each other as students at St. Stanislaus Teachers Training College in Tilburg, the Netherlands. We both graduated and entered the same religious order, the Brothers of Our Lady, Mother of Mercy. Peter was sent to the National University of Ireland, University College, Cork, and convinced his superiors to let him complete the requirements for a Ph.D. degree in experimental biology. He was the first in our order allowed to do so. He went to Kenya where he became head of the biology department in Bishop Otung high school in Kisii. His biology training turned him into the local "medicine man." The order eventually sent him to my community in Bellflower, where he quickly became the head of the science department at St. Pius X High School in Downey. In 1972 he began teaching at Loyola University of Los Angeles. He taught for 22 years, and served as Chair for 8 years.

After 18 years in his beloved religious order, he asked for dispensation of his vows. Ultimately he met and married his wife Annette. Annette and Peter have two sons, Scott and David, both students at Loyola high school. Scott will enter LMU fall, 1994.

Before his death, Peter and I spent time together. He said he wished he could do three more things: eat a nice dinner in a fancy restaurant (he could not because of his illness); visit Tahiti (he loved beautiful women); and visit Scotland. When asked about his last wish, he replied "I want to visit the place where 'scotch' is made." And of course, take a few nips.

In keeping with his love of a good party and of his students, Peter left instructions. On March 16, St. Patrick's Eve, a party in St. Roberts auditorium followed a memorial celebration in a packed Sacred Heart Chapel. It is Dr. Haen's personal wish, and that of his family, that he be remembered by a scholarship fund to support undergraduate student research in biology.

Brother Anthony P. Smulders, CFMM

His lively spirit, strong and contagious, would manifest itself as a smile on my face.

Marco Garcia, '94

He made me realize that you must have a joy in doing something for it to be the right thing to do.

Oliver de la Paz, '94

We all miss Peter Haen.

LMU Career Highlights

Teacher of Year at LMU 1975, '76, '83, '92, '93
Director of Rosecrans Chair on Conservation, 1975-81
Biology Department Chair, 1976-1984
National Board of Directors, Sigma Xi, 1989-92
Hematology text (in press), 1995

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