



Peter John Landolt

June 13, 1952 - December 22, 2019

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our loving husband, father, grandfather, mentor and friend Dr. Peter J. Landolt. As a life-long runner, Pete died suddenly during his normal run near his home in Vancouver, WA on Sunday, December 22, 2019. Peter was born on June 13, 1952, in Cincinnati, Ohio to John and Geraldine Landolt. He is survived by his devoted wife Joni Landolt, his two daughters Kristen and Michelle Landolt from his first marriage to Joyce Landolt, two step children, Shawn (Candis) McDougall and Sarah (Jon) McSmith, grandchildren, Kaylynn, Kylee, Kamden, Payton, Kaleb and Colton, siblings, Sue Mayesky, Bob (Pam) Landolt, Joyce (Bill), Kolasinski, Pat (Steve) Nichols, Anne (Duane) Wilson, John (partner Linda) Landolt, and Kathy Landolt and many nieces, nephews, close friends and colleagues who were all dear to his heart. He is preceded in death by his parents and his brother-in-law, Gary Mayesky.

Dr. Landolt obtained his B.S. in Biology from Northern Michigan University in Marquette, MI in 1974. He obtained his MS of Entomology in 1976 from Washington State University and completed his Ph.D. in 1978 from Washington State University. From there he began his career with the Federal Government. Dr. Landolt was a Research Entomologist for the USDA-ARS for 40 years, joining as a post-doc in 1978 in Fresno, CA and recently retired in January 2018 in Wapato, WA as Research Leader. Dr. Landolt was an Adjunct Professor at Washington State University in Pullman, Washington and

selflessly shared his lifelong research knowledge with graduate students.

Entomology was Peter's life-long love beginning as a small boy in Ohio. As a scientist he researched insect behavior and chemical ecology, including sex attraction, host finding, host selection, and food finding. Dr. Landolt was an internationally respected Chemical Ecologist and developed numerous chemical attractants and trapping systems for pests of agriculturally important crops and human and animal health. Peter's work has provided new methods to reduce yellow jacket and paper wasp numbers in orchards without the use of pesticides. In addition, many people may find the yellow jacket traps in their own backyards were developed from his research. Peter left an enormous impact in the field of Entomology and humankind is better for it.

Pete enjoyed spending time with his beloved wife Joni and their French bulldogs, Jack and Birdie. Living life with Pete was a magical existence. He was a thoughtful, charismatic man with a quirky sense of humor that loved his family and would do anything for them. He was the best human on the planet. Pete always looked forward to his annual insect research trip to Guatemala. He loved the adventures and camaraderie that he shared with his best friends Rich and José. Guatemala was the equivalent to Disneyland to Pete. One of his favorite ways to spend an afternoon was eating lunch with his beloved daughter Kristen. They would discuss insects, new research discoveries and try to solve all the world's problems. They would talk for hours and share endless special moments together. Lastly, the apple of his eye was Kamden John Landolt, his bright and energetic grandson. Pete loved being with him and would move heaven and earth for him. They enjoyed going on long walks together, gardening and sneaking cookies out of the cookie jar. They were the best of friends.

Comforting memories are needed to help Pete's grieving family during this difficult time. Please share special or funny memories by posting a story to

Pete's Tribute Wall at www.evergreenmemorialgardens.com. On behalf of the family we appreciate your love and support and want to say thank you for all your heartfelt condolences. A graveside memorial will be held on Saturday January 4th, 2020 at 2:00 pm, in the Garden of Faith at Evergreen Memorial Gardens Cemetery, 1101 NE 112th Avenue, Vancouver, WA 98684. There will be a celebration of life on location in the hall from 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm. Family and friends are invited to attend a "Party in the Bughouse" following the service at 9719 NE 101st Street, Vancouver, WA from 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made in the memory of Peter J. Landolt to: The Peter J. Landolt Collection Fund, Department of Entomology, Washington State University, Pullman, WA 99164-6382.

Tribute Wall

JL

“ Boy Tucker, do I remember all the running events you two went to, not to mention the practice jogs. I too am a better person for knowing him. Love you Tucker, all the best Joni

Joni Landolt - January 15, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ I loved your tribute to Pete and our family. It was so remarkable. Thank you. All the best, Joni Landolt

Joni Landolt - January 15, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ Mary, every vacation or road trip was an opportunity to find new bugs. He loved what he did. Miss you Ms. Mary, Joni

Joni Landolt - January 15, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ Thank was an awesome story. Pete talked about you and Al all the time. Lots of wonderful memories you all had. All the best, Joni Landolt

Joni Landolt - January 15, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ Thank you Christian, thank you for your warm comments. All the best, Joni Landolt

Joni Landolt - January 15, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ Thank you Donny. Pete always mentioned you to me when he saw you at the club. Keep on going. Regards, Joni Landolt

Joni Landolt - January 15, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ Yes Jerry, he was a great scientist taken way too soon. Take care of yourself, Joni Landolt

Joni Landolt - January 15, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ Thank you for thinking of us Rebecca, Love Joni

Joni Landolt - January 11, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ Thank you Roy. He spoke fondly of you all the time! All the best, Joni Landolt

Joni Landolt - January 11, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ Thank you Steve. Be well, Be happy. Joni Landolt

Joni Landolt - January 11, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ Oh Anne, your memory share was so special. You said it all! Thank you for being at his memorial service and the bug party. God Bless, Joni Landolt

Joni Landolt - January 11, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ Pam, I loved your story. I just smiled from ear to ear! haha! It is true that one of his favorite things in life was to visit you and the rest of his family in OHIO. Listening to Bob and John go at it was one of the many special memories I'll have in my lifetime! They were simply hilarious together.
Thank for sharing. Love Joni



Joni Landolt - January 11, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ Bill and Melanie, thank you for these wonderful memories. He did have great Kamden stories didn't he? Those stories lasted right up until he suddenly passed. Every day was a beautiful day if we got to be with Pete. He will be greatly missed. Love Joni

Joni Landolt - January 11, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ Chris, I'm his wife and even I was so amazed when he would take very little credit for his work and pass most of it along to his peers. I learned from him every day how to be a better person by giving more than I received. Thank you for sharing! All the best, Joni



Joni Landolt - January 11, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ Ben, that is so Pete! haha, what a great memory. I love that hahaha!
All the best, Joni Landolt

Joni Landolt - January 11, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ David, thank you for sharing your warm memories. We are so lucky to have been part of the Pete World! All the best, Joni Landolt

Joni Landolt - January 11, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ Hi Christelle, I am so happy to see your warm memories and good thoughts. You guys are the best. Take care of yourself, Joni Landolt

Joni Landolt - January 11, 2020 at 12:00 AM

CW

“ Condolences from Mississippi, Anne. He left a great legacy! -CW

chris werle - January 09, 2020 at 12:00 AM

CW

“ I did not know Dr. Landolt as well as many of you, but well enough to know that I was very fortunate to meet and work with him. Two primary traits stand out for me; enthusiasm and generosity. He had a natural enthusiasm for being out in nature, looking for insects, and this enthusiasm was contagious! He also was generous in sharing credit for work with the people under him, and helpful in launching careers of researchers. What better legacy could he have wanted? To his loved ones, I'm sorry for your loss. But I know you have a lot of cherished memories and life lessons to hold on to.

chris werle - January 09, 2020 at 12:00 AM

BE

“ I am sorry to hear about Pete's passing. He was instrumental in my career, giving me an opportunity to be his postdoc fresh out of graduate school. I have many fond memories of the brief time I spent in Yakima. One memory sticks out: I was using Doritos bags to develop a prototype for a pheromone dispenser. He volunteered to eat the Doritos, in the name of science, so that nothing went to waste. And for about a month he was eating 4-5 bags of Doritos a day. When I told him the project was done, and I was no longer in need of a chip eater, I have never had a supervisor so disappointed in a finished project before. I will look back on my time in Yakima, and with Pete, fondly and often. He will be missed/

Ben - January 08, 2020 at 12:00 AM

BW

“ Bill and I worked alongside Pete at the Wapato USDA lab - Bill for 2 years as maintenance supervisor, and myself for 8 years as his administrative assistant. I enjoyed many conversations with Pete on numerous topics - he was so insightful, informative, and humorous. Favorites for both of us were his 'Kamden stories' - Pete clearly found such joy in his grandson. Pete was a supportive, thoughtful, and appreciative co-worker who held a very strong belief in the importance of family. He was a mentor and good friend who will be remembered often and missed always. Our deepest condolences to Joni, Kristen, Michelle, Kamden, and all his family.



Bill & Melanie Wilson - January 08, 2020 at 12:00 AM

DJ

“ Peter was a kindred spirit in Lepidoptera and chemical ecology. I first knew of him when I lived in Australia and read his scientific papers and was glad to meet him in person when I came to live in Washington in 1999. We collaborated on a few projects together over the years and his productivity was extraordinary. Beyond his scientific excellence, Pete was an exceptional human being. When he learned that I was having serious health problems he was on my 'doorstep' almost immediately (despite living 300 miles away!). Pete had experienced similar issues and was a sincere and great comfort to me, helping me to move forward. Thank you Pete for being a great colleague and friend!

David James - January 07, 2020 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ Rebecca Mulalley-Thacker lit a candle in memory of Peter John Landolt



Rebecca Mulalley-Thacker - January 03, 2020 at 12:00 AM

SB

“ Steven Bransford lit a candle in memory of Peter John Landolt



Steven Bransford - January 03, 2020 at 12:00 AM

RN

“ Will miss Pete. He took an interest in me when I was a newly arrived young scientist and provided friendship and mentoring over the years. Always appreciated his intellect and humor. Condolences to his family.

Roy Navarre - January 03, 2020 at 12:00 AM

AC

“ Pete 'retired' less than two years ago. Retirement meant chasing after all the insect problems that plagued him, but didn't have time for while employed as an entomologist for USDA, ARS. His dedication to getting it right before publishing was refreshing. Pete continued to influence the direction of research in beetle, moth and wasp investigations; passionate about all things entomological. We've lost a wealth of insect behavioral information with his passing. He had collaborators and companions-in-science all over the country and world. He was animated and full of stories after returning from a collecting trip, whether domestic or abroad. He talked often about his pleasure that his daughter was interested in science and entomology. When he was able to see him, he loved doing activities with his grandson. And although we used to tease him about recently acquired French bulldog puppies, he really enjoyed them and their antics. Pete, we will miss your guidance and input in designing and implementing experiments and projects for the advancement of knowledge of insect behavior, attractants, and ultimately, controls. Condolences to the family, and to the world of insect behavior research.

Anne Kenny Chapman - January 03, 2020 at 12:00 AM

PL

“Pete was one of the most awesome men that I have ever known. I have had the privilege of being his sister in law for over 47 years. When Bob and I were still dating we often provided transportation back and forth to Northern Michigan University when Pete was working on his bachelors degree. Pete was Bob's best man in our wedding. He has never let us forget that he ate peas (which he hated) at our wedding reception. When our children Mike and Angela were young he would often come over to play with them. Of course it would be right before their bedtime and he would wind them up and then just leave! (forgetting his coat of course!) It was tough getting them to bed after uncle Pete visited but they loved it! That was the very beginning of many happy memories with Pete! Sometimes long periods of time would go by without a chance for visiting. I loved how when Bob and Pete were together again it was as if no time had passed. They just picked up where they left off! The interaction between the three brothers Bob, Pete and John was always fun to watch. Pete was just Pete to his brothers, no Dr. Peter Landolt world renowned entomologist! Although John would always put up lights and sheets at night to help him capture insects! I'll never forget Joni's reaction when she first experienced the three of them together! It was pure enjoyment! Pete was such a humble guy he just flowed with the brotherly harassment! Bob was always trying to get Pete to buy a smart phone. He always asked him, if you are so smart why are you using a dumb flip phone?! He even went so far as to in-service Pete on all the great aspects of owning a smart phone and how it could benefit him. When he would call Pete he would ask are you answering on that dumb flip phone?! Pete would just laugh! Fortunately after Pete retired he had a little more time for visiting family and travel. We really enjoyed his visits! Last August was is his last trip to Michigan and Ohio. We are fortunate that he spent part of that time at our home. We had so much fun, so many laughs, great conversations, fun family get-to-togethers, Pete even went on our morning walks with our dog and he never complained about sleeping in our granddaughters' very pink princess bedroom with many many stuffed animals! He said it was more comfortable than a tent in Guatemala! In retrospect that visit was a gift, it was a

blessing. Little did we know it would be our last. Our hearts are breaking! Pete will be forever missed.

Pam Landolt - January 03, 2020 at 12:00 AM

GB

“ *Pete was dear friend and collaborator. His authentic curiosity and deep intellect made a conversation with him a treat for my soul. He will be sorely missed by the many ,many entomologists and chemical ecologists that he interacted with for so long. Rest in Peace friend. We will all be along to see you again shortly.* ”

G. T. Bohmfalk - January 02, 2020 at 12:00 AM

RL

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall* ”



Richard Landolt - January 02, 2020 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall* ”



Tribute Store - January 02, 2020 at 12:00 AM

CG

“ So sad to hear about your passing Pete...You were a great mentor and a very helpful and understanding when I needed it the most. My career path changed and developed under your guidance and got me to UW-Madison. Thank you! We wil miss you. Christelle Guedot

Christelle Guedot - January 02, 2020 at 12:00 AM

CK

“ Condolences to Peter's family. He was one of the most authentic people I have met in the science world, and just an all around good guy. I enjoyed all of my time learning from him and sorry to hear he is gone too soon.

Christian Krupke - January 02, 2020 at 12:00 AM

LW

“ Pete and I were good friends during our grad student days in Pullman. We spent many Friday evenings drinking beer with some other students and faculty at the local pubs. We also went on several backpacking adventures. Probably the best story is of our Sasquatch hunt with Al Greene south of Mt. St. Helens in January, 1976. We thought it would be a good place for a hunt because there had been reported sightings in that area, it would be deserted of people at that time of the year and foot prints would be visible in the snow. We snowshoed to near the base of the mountain and set up camp with high hopes. But instead of Sasquatches, snowmobiles buzzed by our camp until midnight. It was a fun trip anyway. Pete was one of the most dedicated entomologists that I know. I was happy to cooperate with him on a couple of projects when he worked at Wapato: one on grape cutworms and another on the hop looper. My sincere condolences to his family.

Larry Wright - January 02, 2020 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ I'm so sorry to hear about the passing of Peter. I always enjoyed talking to him at the Yakima Athletic Club. I was a young apple grower in the Yakima Valley when I first met him and he always liked talking insects and what I was seeing out in the field. My condolences to all his family. Really sad!

Donny Schlect - January 01, 2020 at 12:00 AM

DE

“ David Epstein lit a candle in memory of Peter John Landolt



David Epstein - December 31, 2019 at 12:00 AM

JT

“ Pete ask me one day if I would mind if he joined me for a jog. I told him to meet me on the Greenway the following Sunday. Once we got started on our first jog he ask me how far are we going. I told him 6 miles. He said usually he only runs 2 miles and that he would turn around at 1 mile and make his way back to where we started. I started telling him one of my story's which led to one of his story's and we ended with a six miles run. This was our start to thousands of miles running and talking about our life's. We couldn't help but get close. We shared our hopes and dreams as well as our disappointments and fears. I personally held Pete in esteem. I am a better person as a direct influence of our friendship. I'll miss you buddy.

Jim Tucker - December 31, 2019 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ Oh babe, I miss you. You were my best friend and made me laugh every day and when you were being witty and hilarious your dimple deepened further into your cheek. I loved our deep philosophical discussions about life, science and politics. You were a wise soul taken too soon. I will never understand why things like this happen, ever. You had so much unfinished business. I love you my darling. Until we meet again, Love your wife Joni



Joni M. Landolt - December 31, 2019 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ I'll find a photo sometime but my memory of Your loving husband is seeing him and how he did his love of work in the trees across from our little home when you made the effort to drive and see us after too many years! It was lots of good memories and made lots of new ones! Thank you again! 🙏🙏🙏 Coming your way!

marydavis52@yahoo.com - December 31, 2019 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ Condolences to the Landolt family. Sad news on the passing of a great scientist and researcher that I worked under for many years.

Jerald (Jerry) Gefre - December 31, 2019 at 12:00 AM