



Peter Ralph Gaetano

April 13, 1961 - August 30, 2025

Peter Ralph “Big Pete” Gaetano, of North Haven, passed away peacefully at the age of 64 on August 30, 2025, at Connecticut Hospice in Branford after a short illness. Born on April 13, 1961 in New Haven to Ralph Gaetano and Ann Esposito Gaetano, he grew up in Hamden with his three sisters. He graduated from Hamden High School in 1979. Dean Junior College, where he played lacrosse and was a business administration major, attended Northeastern University in Boston, MA, and graduated from Southern Connecticut State University in 1990. Pete worked as a bartender in Martha's Vineyard, Boston, Daytona Beach, and the Greater New Haven area. He loved bartending best, saying it was his most important job. He also taught swimming at the North Haven Pool. Later, he worked for the State of Connecticut Liquor Commission as a Liquor Control Supervising Agent for both Mohegan Sun Casino and Foxwoods Casino. He also served as a New Applications Supervisor in Hartford. When he wasn't working, he was volunteering at the North Haven Parks and Recreation Department, dressing up as Santa Claus during the holidays. He loved spending time with his family and friends and will be dearly missed by all those who loved and cared about him. Pete was predeceased by both his parents and his sisters, Etta Gaetano Pittala and Ann-Louise Gaetano DeSorbo. He leaves behind his loving and devoted wife, Carolyn Calamita Gaetano, a sister, Andrea (Eric) Gaetano Polinsky of Woodbridge, a niece, Danielle Pittala Marple of Venice, FL, a nephew, Matthew Polinsky of Woodbridge, two great-nieces, and a great-

nephew.

The family would like to extend a special thank you to the compassionate and kind nursing staff at Gaylord Hospital, especially the nurses and aides in Lyman 1, along with Michelle and Marcy from PT and OT.

Calling hours are Sunday 10 - 12 noon with a parlor service at noon in Sisk Brothers Funeral Home 3105 Whitney Ave. Hamden.

Previous Events

Calling hours

SEP 7. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Sisk Brothers Funeral Home
3105 Whitney Ave.
Hamden, CT 06518
(203) 288-7114
siskfuneral@sbcglobal.net

Funeral service

SEP 7. 12:00 PM (ET)

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Tribute Wall

LD

“ Peter, your light may be dimmed but your spirit lives bright in the hearts of those who knew you & loved you most. May precious moments & beautiful memories provide comfort & peace to your family & friends as they journey through this difficult time of sorrow. My deepest condolences to all. Lori DeNicola

Lori DeNicola - September 26, 2025 at 07:45 PM



“ A grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Peter Ralph Gaetano.

September 26, 2025 at 07:35 PM

MC

“ Marianne Monarca & Fran Caruso purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Peter Ralph Gaetano.



Marianne Monarca & Fran Caruso - September 06, 2025 at 08:10 AM

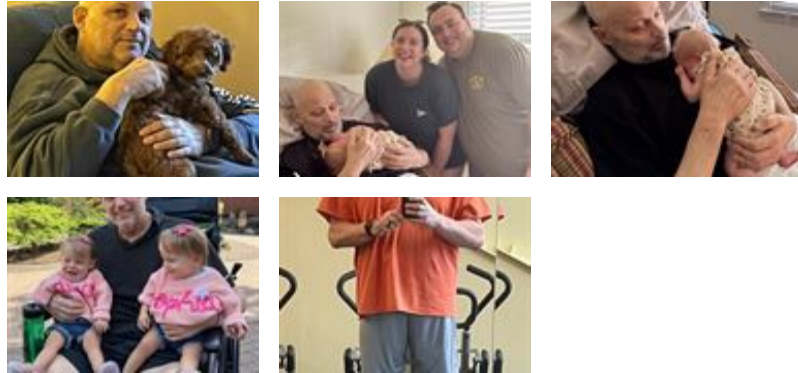
MC

“ Marianne Monarca & Fran Caruso planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Peter Ralph Gaetano.

Marianne Monarca & Fran Caruso - September 06, 2025 at 08:10 AM



“ 145 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



Sisk Brothers Funeral Home - September 05, 2025 at 12:39 PM

FR

“ *Fay sheppard and Michael Romeo purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Peter Ralph Gaetano.*



Fay sheppard and Michael Romeo - September 05, 2025 at 10:34 AM

FR

“ *Fay sheppard and Michael Romeo planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Peter Ralph Gaetano.*

Fay sheppard and Michael Romeo - September 05, 2025 at 10:34 AM

WP

“ *William P. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Peter Ralph Gaetano.*

William P. - September 04, 2025 at 08:38 PM

SE

“ I am so saddened by the passing of Peter Gaetano. He was a super guy who touched so many; a big, sensitive teddy bear. Pete was at our home quite a bit over the years - not only because his immediate family lived right behind us, but also because he had a loving, special relationship with my husband, his uncle Peter. Pete loved him very much and took his passing hard.

Pete loved babies and kids, and he especially loved his cousin Derek. He came and played with him often. I can still see him lying on the floor in the living room with baby Derek on his chest. Derek was always thrilled when Pete stopped by, especially when he could sit in his Jeep and play with the steering wheel. This wonderful relationship continued over the years, and it was Pete who got Derek into bartending.

Over 30 years ago, I had wanted to go to Toad's Place. I had never been there and wanted to see what it was all about. My husband had no desire, so Pete took me. (Dang if I can remember who we saw - I kept meaning to ask him; he would remember for sure.) You couldn't go anywhere with Pete without him running into people he knew, as was the case that night. He introduced me as his aunt, and the response was "yeah, right Pete." It was pretty funny.

Rest in peace you dear, beautiful man. You will be missed by so many. My sincerest condolences to all family members and friends, especially Carrie and Andrea.



Susan Esposito - September 04, 2025 at 08:28 PM

WD

“ With Love Rich and Kim DAngelo purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Peter Ralph Gaetano.



With Love Rich and Kim DAngelo - September 04, 2025 at 03:30 PM

WD

“ With Love Rich and Kim DAngelo planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Peter Ralph Gaetano.

With Love Rich and Kim DAngelo - September 04, 2025 at 03:30 PM



“ Kim D'Angelo lit a candle in memory of Peter Gaetano



Kim D'Angelo - September 04, 2025 at 02:51 PM

HB

“ Pete was one of the friendliest, kindest people. Pete, with that smile would greet you always with welcome arms. What a wonderful man and life. Rest in peace.

Harry Brady - September 04, 2025 at 02:11 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Peter Ralph Gaetano.



September 04, 2025 at 09:55 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Peter Ralph Gaetano.

September 04, 2025 at 09:55 AM



“ A grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Peter Ralph Gaetano.

September 03, 2025 at 08:19 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Peter Ralph Gaetano.



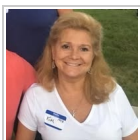
September 03, 2025 at 06:52 PM

ID

“ *Big Pete and Big Jim, together again, friends for life. Sending sincere condolences to Carolyn and the family*



Ina Dixon - September 03, 2025 at 05:34 PM



“ *You were more than my cousin, you are my brother ! I will miss our breakfast on Sunday morning together, and time together at Hamden fish and game. We could never thank you enough for suggesting Pennsylvania while we were looking for an R.V. destination. You have taken big pieces of our hearts with you. Nothing could ever take our memories and love! Until we meet again*

Kim D'Angelo - September 03, 2025 at 12:52 PM