



## Mr. Peter Contento

July 26, 1946 - April 2, 2021

Peter Contento, 74 yrs. old passed away on Good Friday, 4/2/2021 surrounded by his family at home. Peter loved his family and cherished their time spent together gathered around the table eating, talking, laughing, telling stories, and playing cards. There was always room at the Contento Table for family and friends.

Peter was a true “Dog Whisperer” who bred and raised many dogs throughout his life. His first Springer Spaniel- Gabilan of Lake Como or “Gabby” won many ribbons at the Field Trials they attended. He owned and hunted with German Wire Haired Pointers and trained his Wire Haired Dachshund; “Jack” to track and find deer. Jack and Pete were inseparable.

Peter lived life to the fullest. He was an exceptional craftsman and avid outdoorsman. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, gardening, golfing, and time spent with his family at “The Point”. He was always ready for an adventure be it in his backyard, on local waterways, on Sanibell Island, or in Alaskan waters.

His career spanned 30+ years at Homer Senior High School where he was a Global Studies Teacher and so much more. During his tenure he taught and nurtured countless students and advocated for teachers by being Department Chair and HTA President. He also started a lacrosse club and worked diligently to make it Varsity status, all of the young men on his Team still call

him "Coach".

He leaves to cherish his memory; Cheryl his wife of 51 years, his son; Paul (& wife Liz Proctor Contento), daughter; Carrie (& husband Brendan Rew) and grandson; Dorian, sister; Elaine Contento; sister in laws; Judi Wilkins, Kathy Coggi and their families, along with many relatives and friends. Peter was predeceased by his parents; Rose and Victor Contento, infant son; Anthony, in laws; Benjamin and Josephine Robbins, and brother in laws; Thomas Wilkins and Gerald Coggi.

In keeping with his wishes there will be no formal funeral services. Peter requested his family and friends gather one more time to eat and enjoy each others company. A celebration of his life will be planned for later this year. Contributions may be made to the charity of ones choice in Peters name.

Peter's family would like to thank the doctors who cared for him through this difficult time. Hospice of Central New York and The Finger Lakes Region provided compassionate care during the remaining days of his life.

Arrangements under the direction of Riccardi Funeral Home, Cortland, N.Y.  
[www.riccardifuneralhome.com](http://www.riccardifuneralhome.com)

# Tribute Wall

PD

“ You made my foster care experience so much better and you always gave me and my brother so much love and support. I loved visiting your house with Carrie, and it was something I looked forward to. You are very loved and missed. ❤️🕊️

Payton Dorney - September 20, 2024 at 02:36 PM

CT

“ I was so sorry to hear of Pete passing away. He joined his good friend Andy and are probably hunting or playing cards together. Happy will always remember Pete as my little brothers best friend. They did a lot together her over the years. I remember him coming to our house when m mother had cub scouts. Pete was always very friendly and a nice kid to have around. I have not seen him in years since moving to Iowa, but my brother would keep me up on how he was doing. Mr prayers to all the family and many friends that Pete had. A great guy no longer in pain.

Carol Seyfried Taylor - May 01, 2021 at 02:07 PM

CT

Sorry for the mistakes in the above. My phone loves to add words.

Carol Seyfried Taylor - May 01, 2021 at 02:10 PM

S'

“ He's the reason I love history. I got the great opportunity to see him about a month ago, have him a big hug as we reminisced about school and I shared photos of my children and we caught up. Heaven sure gained a special one. He will be missed.

Sarah Hill '04 - April 09, 2021 at 03:01 PM

SW

“ Well like 10 years ago or so my husband and myself and out friend went out in our boat to test it out well we were going around the lake great then the next it stopped running while we all were trying to row hrs later we were still in same spot and along came Mr C and he pulled us in! He saved us that day. Mr C you are the best friend a person can have and also a great teacher. You will be missed dearly !

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**sherri williams** - April 08, 2021 at 08:08 AM

DW

“ Mr c was such a great man he was always there to talk to he told me several times that my son gave him so much joy as he watched him jumping on the trampoline.. he was a great teacher and neighbor you will be missed me c

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**Deanne walker** - April 07, 2021 at 10:51 PM

KS

“ Mr. Contento was my favorite teacher in high school. He made learning fun and I was just recently talking about him and the impact he had. I am very sorry to hear of his passing and my deepest condolences are with his family and friends.

*Karen B*

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**Karen Soliman** - April 07, 2021 at 10:20 PM

BS

“ Although I never had Pete as a teacher at Homer, he was an excellent neighbor and a very fine teacher within the Lake Como community. I first met him when he was working on the lacrosse program and he was so good at explaining the nuances of the sport to me. I moved away 40 years ago but came across Pete while hunting deer about 15 years ago. Our conversation in the woods was a pleasant one with Pete updating me on the local happenings since I had left. He was a good man and I'm sure his contributions to those he helped along the way will be long lasting and cherished.

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**Bob Snover** - April 07, 2021 at 12:52 PM

MM

“ I remember Mr Contento from high school. He was a great teacher and a great person too. He could tell days I felt defeated and he would tell me a story and that always brought a smile to my face. I am so sorry for your loss. Thinking of you during this difficult time.

*Missy Homer-De Mott*

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**Missy Homer-De Mott** - April 07, 2021 at 12:15 PM

SH

“ Pete was a wonderful man. I knew him through work, and he was so positive and so supportive of his colleagues. Thoughts go to his family during this difficult time!

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**S Heyer** - April 07, 2021 at 11:55 AM

J.

“ We are so very sorry to hear of this. He was a great teacher, making learning fun. Our thoughts and prayers for his family. Jay and Judy Tinker

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**Jay and Judy .Tinker** - April 07, 2021 at 08:12 AM



“ *Where to begin? Where to begin? Life was constantly was an adventure with my father as I type this. I look at my rack of tomahawks, and at the top sits the one he got me for Christmas. Tomahawk throwing was one of my many interests, along with football, wrestling, martial arts, and music. My father not only supported my interests, but he encouraged me to get involved. I will not only remember holidays, family trips, and vacations we spent together, but it's the more simple moments, like walking into the living room and just sitting down to talk and watch tv shows that were treasured. Even after I moved to Ithaca with the woman that would become my wife, if I couldn't stop over to visit, I made it a point to call every day to talk to him and Mom. When I got married, the choice for best man was simple- it was my father. Dad wasn't just a father, but a best friend too. Goodbye, Dad. I will miss you and never forget you.*

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**Paul Contento** - April 06, 2021 at 02:44 PM

LJ

*He was a great man, teacher  
Thoughts and prayers to your family*

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**Lucy Johnson** - April 07, 2021 at 12:46 PM

HV

“ *Mr. Contento was such a great teacher and an even better friend for my dad. He will be greatly missed. We are sending our deepest condolences to the entire family. His legacy will forever be with us. Much love.  
-Heather Valentine*

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**Heather Valentine** - April 06, 2021 at 02:39 PM

RG

“ Cheryl, Carrie Beth and Paul I am so sorry for your loss. I will always remember Christmas spent a grandpa Carriero's house and my visits to the contento reunion. I am going to miss my holiday talks with Peter. Thank you for your gardening tips on growing garlic and how to braid it. God bless, cousin Richard

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**Richard Guarniero** - April 06, 2021 at 01:32 PM

C(

“ Our deepest sympathies, so many of us worked with Pete over the years.

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**Cortland Area Retired Teachers (CARTA)** - April 06, 2021 at 12:42 PM

LS

“ Pete was not only a cousin, he was a friend, a mentor, a role model, a teacher. He had an aura of strength, compassion, and fun about him. He was talented and artistic. He made you feel heard and included. Pete was one of those exceptional people who appreciated life and nature and he lived his life to the fullest - with appreciation for all of the people, places, and things it it. Most of all, he was just a good, honest, hard-working man. Pete's love and energy will remain in our hearts and memories always, but his presence here with us all will be sorely missed. My love to the whole family. <3

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**Linda (Contento) Schmidt** - April 06, 2021 at 11:59 AM

LS

“ 5 files added to the album Memories Album



Linda (Contento) Schmidt - April 06, 2021 at 11:33 AM

MA

“ I am SO sorry for your family's loss. Pete was such a good friend to Todd. He was always there for him. I know Todd is waiting for Pete up in heaven and they will go fishing and hunting together, whole in body and spirit again... Max

Max - April 06, 2021 at 10:29 AM

MB

Peter was not only an awesome teacher for my friends and family but a great friend/neighbor to me. He will be greatly missed.

Michael Bidwell - April 06, 2021 at 12:32 PM

MO

Mr. Contento was one of my favorite teachers. His exuberance for history was contagious. Rest easy now dear man, your journey is over.

Molly O'Connor - April 08, 2021 at 06:40 PM

KH

*I always enjoyed working with Pete, first as a Homer teacher, and then as a college supervisor of student teachers.*

*My daughter, Julie, was in his World History class and learned so much from him. Our fondest Homer memories include Pete. May*

*God bless him! Karen Foresti Hempson*

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**Karen Foresti Hempson** - April 09, 2021 at 04:22 PM

GP

*Pete was my best friend for seventy years. We met when we were 5 years old, We grew young together. We grew old together. The memories we made are vivid and will be with me forever. They will help me through missing his friendship, humor, big heart and love of life. Rest in Peace, Pete. We are Best Friends Forever.*

*Gene Patriarca- April 13, 2021*

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**Gene Patriarca** - April 13, 2021 at 11:22 AM