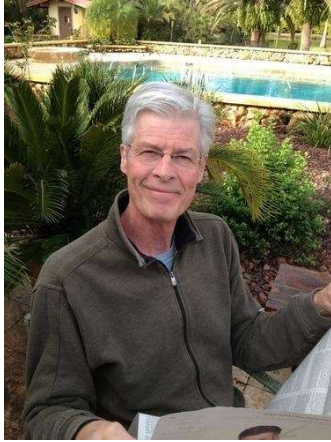




Peter James Hansen

04/10/1947 - 02/12/2025

Designer and furniture maker, Peter James Hansen was born April 10, 1947 in Ann Arbor, Michigan. He passed away February 12, 2025 at home in Brunswick, Maine with his wife Marie (Despot) Tapert and daughter Lisa Tapert by his side. He grew up in a home where perfectionism in design and making was prized.

He brought creative spirit and fine craftsmanship to home design, custom furniture, and art. He and Marie worked together every day, first in Ann Arbor, then in Whitmore Lake. They built a beautiful home and nurtured an informal wildlife sanctuary creating a native prairie and growing fabulous garlic. He worked in his light and airy shop, next to Marie's studio. Every summer they spent at McGregor Bay, Peter's favorite place. This island, #1628, Pine and Blueberry, came from partnership of friends who purchased the island together in the 1930s. He spent long and happy summers there fixing, playing, eating, drinking, sailing, rowing, and ponding. Special friends joined this remote island. He and Marie took in strays including Porch Cat, Thomas, Henry, and finally Cleo, who guarded him in his last months.

In 2022, Peter and Marie prepared for a grand adventure of living in Maine close to Lisa and husband Chad MacArthur. That blissful ideal was cut short by a vascular brain injury, which slowly claimed him. During this challenging time, he continued to enjoy laughter and the music of Bob Dylan. He treated everyone with kindness and respect, including his wonderful caregivers. He slept every night, including his last, next to Marie.

He attended Ann Arbor High and earned a BA Industrial Design at Purdue University. He lived in Ann Arbor and Whitmore Lake for most of his life with short stints in Lake Placid, NY Burlington, VT, and Boise, ID.

His mother, Olive "Bets" Hansen taught at Community High, and his father, William Hansen and forebears, were craftsmen. His sister, Susan Hansen was with him in spirit during his last months. His grandfather, Peter Heinrich Hansen, designed for Stickley Furniture in a collaborative partnership with his wife Han Hansen.

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