



Bjorn Pedersen

December 19, 1938 - March 7, 2016

Bjorn Pedersen of Stevensville, MD, died March 7, 2016. He was 77.

Born in Norway on December 19, 1938, he was the son of Martin and Helen Pedersen. After World War II, the family moved to the United States. After graduation from Fort Hamilton High School in Brooklyn, NY, he attended Ohio State and later Michigan State, from which he earned his bachelor's degree. He worked as a police officer in Oakland and East Lansing, MI. In 1969, he would go to work for the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) and later with Glen Murphy and Associates as a law enforcement consultant with a specialty in police administration. In 1988, he went to work for Anne Arundel County's Office of Personnel, and, at the time of his retirement, served as the Director of Personnel for the Anne Arundel County Police Department.

During his retirement, he owned and operated his own landscaping business in the Kent Island area. He enjoyed crabbing, gardening, and landscaping.

He is survived by his wife, Julie O'Connell; his daughters, Holly Pedersern-Emory, Kimberly Fitzgerald Cobb, and Marguerite Helen Pedersen; a step-son, Michael Warus Khan; three grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and a sister, Solveig Paulhamus. He was predeceased by his sister, Mabel Thorsvik and his brother, Egil A. Pedersen.

All services will be private.

Tribute Wall



“ *Bjorn Pedersen*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Bjorn Pedersen*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *Bjorn Pedersen*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



Kimberly
Fitzgerald
Cobb

“ ❤️



Kimberly Fitzgerald Cobb - April 27, 2018 at 08:21 PM



“ *I just have to share this cool tidbit of information. Thanks dad for the passion of history. I might actually get to go to Norway and study with a Fulbright Program opportunity with Salisbury University! I can pose my research question and go there for an independent research or something along those lines. You might not be here to explain everything to me, but for some reason...I know you're telling me to go for it. Miss you and think of you always. Thank you for believing in me always. ❤️*

Maggie Pedersen - April 06, 2017 at 01:30 PM



“ Well dad...today is 1 year without you. We miss you. We miss your dry sense of humor. I miss your potatoes and onion for breakfast. I miss your wisdom. I miss your laugh and your smile. I miss you! That's all....I just miss you. I love you! Will see you soon.
Love,
Kimmy ❤️

Kimberly Fitzgerald Cobb - March 07, 2017 at 08:12 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Maggie Pedersen - October 22, 2016 at 07:37 PM



Since Pedersen Lawn Maintenance was a sponsor last year for SUs Home Show, I figured it would be appropriate to continue the sponsorship in memory of my dad. He was always a big supporter in my horseback riding career and I'm glad he was able to support me during my IHSA career to the best of his abilities. Always thinking of you. Love you! <3

Maggie Pedersen - October 22, 2016 at 07:40 PM

MP

“ So I had a dream last night. Basically my second one this week. I had a dream you came back. It was like nothing even happened. I mean yeah-the house was gone but you weren't. Basically how I thought it happened the night you left. I had lost my home but my father was going to be okay. Anyway. I had a dream that we were in a new home and I saw you-like in person. Almost as if you were only gone for like three months and then you came back. I was overjoyed. There were hugs, tears, apologies, 'I love you's and everything else I wish I could tell you. But then I woke up. The dreams probably won't go away anytime soon. Some of them are reminders of an awful time in my life. I often think that most of this is all one bad dream and I'll wake up-eventually. But it's not. However, I'm thankful for the ones where I get to see you again. And we focus on better things and we basically talk. I miss our talks where we would talk for like two hours on work and school. I miss making political comments while you're watching Fox News. Football season is probably not going to be the same. Though I don't have a team I follow-I'm going to miss you yelling at the TV when either the power goes out, a squirrel runs on the field or some teams has these awful uniforms.

I miss you. I'm trying to hang in there. But like I said, some of the dreams help a bit because I get to see you again. I love you, dad. Till the next dream.

Maggie Pedersen - August 05, 2016 at 10:02 AM



Kimberly
Fitzgerald

Those dreams are gifts to you God gives when you need them. ❤️

Kimberly Fitzgerald Cobb - January 16, 2017 at 06:44 PM

MP

“ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BIRL_iu3eQM

I like to think I got my love of music from my dad. He enjoyed lots of different music. Country, Classical, whatever you would call The Irish Tenors. And when I would play NSync on the family stereo, he wasn't against it. One day when I was like ten he broke out his guitar and sang "El Paso" by Marty Robbins. For about the past month or two, I would not only hear my dads voice in my head. Not really knowing the words he's saying but knowing it's his voice. But what I could comprehend was when he played his guitar and sang "Out in the west Texas town of El Paso /I fell in love with a Mexican girl." And I see the memory in my head. It brings me so much joy. And will continue to bring so much joy to my life.

Another song that I don't have as much of a vivid memory about but know he liked was a song by John Denver. The famous line goes "Country Road, take me home. To the place I belong." I sometimes catch myself singing it to myself and thinking of my dad. It brings me joy. I think my dad enjoyed country roads driving in the Red 1994 Chevy pick-up. It's been rough, no lie about it. But music has helped a lot and these memories bring me so much joy as well. Keep singing, my guardian angle. We'll duet sometime. <3

Maggie Pedersen - July 26, 2016 at 02:06 PM




Kimberly
Fitzgerald
Cobb

“ *I love and miss you💕. Been hearing a lot of awesome funny stories from your closest friends. Enjoying that. Wish you were here to laugh at those stories with me. See you soon.*



Kimberly Fitzgerald Cobb - July 15, 2016 at 06:30 AM




“ I love and miss you . Been hearing a lot of awesome funny stories from your closest friends. Enjoying that. Wish you were here to laugh at those stories with me. See you soon.



Kimberly Fitzgerald Cobb - July 15, 2016 at 06:29 AM



“ I love and miss you . Been hearing a lot of awesome funny stories from your closest friends. Enjoying that. Wish you were here to laugh at those stories with me. See you soon.

Kimberly Fitzgerald Cobb - July 15, 2016 at 06:28 AM



“ I miss you. <3

Maggie Pedersen - June 04, 2016 at 08:24 AM



“ Hey:
I miss you, dad. It's been rough- but it's a matter of taking it day by day. I just wanted to inform you that the grass has been cut. Knowing how much you cared about your lawn and the lawns of your customers, I felt the need to tell you that yours was very well taken care of today and looks great! Miss and love you, dad. Till we speak again. <3
-Mag

Maggie - May 12, 2016 at 02:23 PM

MP

“ I thought of you the whole time I was in Asheville, North Carolina because you said that you enjoyed that area, and mom reminded me that you were fond of the area too. I miss you more and more each and every day, dad. This whole thing still seems a little unreal that it's really happening, but your viking is still managing. Thank you for everything that you have done for me with school and my education. Without your support, I would have never been able to attend or give presentations at these conferences. You're still the best. Even though you're not here physically, I know you're still with me in spirit. Thank you for everything. I love you, dad. Your support did and forever will mean the world to me.

I really missed calling you at 1am to tell you I made it to Salisbury and I will be home soon. Though out of habit, I almost did. I truly miss you. <3

Maggie Pedersen - April 10, 2016 at 02:05 AM

HB

“ Maggie a "Pete" memory----back in the '90's the next door neighbors had a pool in the back yard, and when Pete was overheated from his gardens (really great gardens) he would come running through the yard and Dean would always say "gotta refill the pool". Because Pete would do a bellyflop from the top deck. Maggie I am so sorry to hear about your Dad. He was a really good guy and would do anything for anybody. He would get really excited when the "Buffalo' folks came down to "merryland" as he said... you forgot to mention HOT peppers in the homefries....Maybe now he and Dean are hanging on the back fence in God knows where?? I think of you often and as I read these notes I see you are doing quite well good for you. My love to you hopefully you remember me you called me Ms Hank.

Henrietta Brimacomb - March 31, 2016 at 08:48 PM

MP

Hi, Ms. Hank! I do remember you! And Mr. Dean too! Thank you for the wonderful leaving a wonderful memory! Yes, the days when the folks from Buffalo would come and visit was a great time! Thank you again for leaving this. And I hope all is well with you. I'm sure Mr. Dean and my Dad are hanging out somewhere too! <3

-Maggie

Maggie Pedersen - March 31, 2016 at 10:02 PM

IN

“ *My heart goes out to you Maggie and your family. I will keep you in my thoughts and prayers, may your heart and soul find peace, comfort and loving memories in the days ahead.*

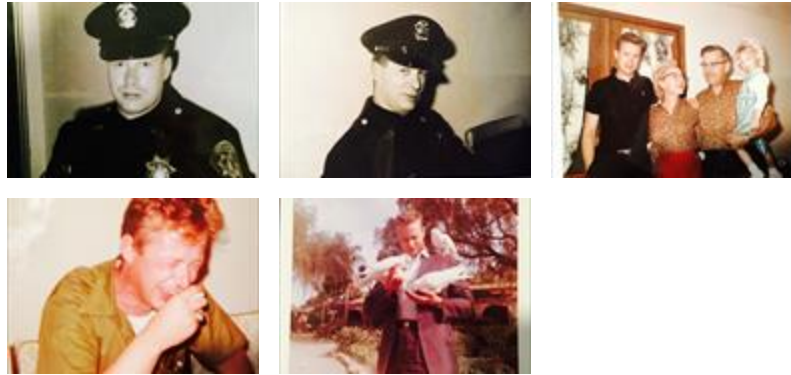
Your father had such a big heart, he would help anyone. Several years ago he helped clear the last little bit of snow from my driveway. Another time your father was at the corner store one day as I was feeding and trapping the feral cats behind the store, he told me about his cats and he left me with a donation in the jar to help with rescuing them. He loved his cats. I am grateful that I was able to help find his and your cats.

Mr. Pete was a wonderful, very kind man with a big heart, he will be missed by many.

Inge - March 23, 2016 at 07:18 PM

Kimberly
Fitzgerald
Cobb

“ *What a handsome man he was! Going through some old photos that my mom gave me of him when they were married. Such a happy time. Miss you so much dad.* ”



Kimberly Fitzgerald Cobb - March 23, 2016 at 05:01 PM

HE

I love those pictures and he was a very handsome man!

Holly Emory - March 23, 2016 at 05:55 PM

MP

“ Dad-

I came back from advising for my last semester at SU. Though I can't tell you physically what my classes are, I can tell you in spirit, one of the classes is the same as a class I'm taking now only under a different title. And it has to deal with the Supreme Court. It's with the same professor that I took Civil Rights and Liberties with last semester (and I know that was your favorite class out of all of the classes I have taken-or at least the one you asked about the most). One of the last conversations I had with you was my worry of being able to find a job after I graduate-and you always would give me options and reassuring that I was going to be ok and not to worry. Based on the classes I have taken, I'm not so worried anymore. Thank you for being a history nerd (along with mom) and essentially rubbing that nerdism on to me in hopes of finding a career in researching. Again, thank you for talking to me when I was worried about my education and my future and for being my biggest supporters when I decided that I wanted to pursue my degree in History with a minor in Political Science. You're the best! And though I can't tell you physically and face-to-face how everything is going, I can still have you giving me guidance in whatever I do in my life-and I know you'll forever be my biggest supporter. Thanks for being there for me always!

-Mag

Maggie Pedersen - March 21, 2016 at 01:45 PM

JO

He'll stay with you every step of the way.....you were his baby girl and he thought the world of you.

Julie OConnell - March 21, 2016 at 09:18 PM

MP

“ *Fun Fact: It's apparently National "I Love You" Day.
Tell your loved ones you love them (or express love in the way you
see fit) and give a big ole hug (as you should everyday).*

I love you, Dad! Miss you more and more everyday!

<3

Maggie Pedersen - March 18, 2016 at 09:17 PM

JY

“ I'm so sorry to hear of Pete's passing; he was always so full of life and energy that it's difficult to imagine him gone.

If I can leave a story, Pete and I shared an office for several years at AA County. One day a co-worker with waterman experience described to him how a crabbing trotline works and drew him a rough diagram.

Now a trotline is both simple and complex at the same time. It consists of a heavy weight, a length of heavy chain, a float, 50 yards or so of line to which the bait (bull lips or eel) is tied every couple of feet, then another float another length of chain and another weight. Running the line meant passing the line over a hook on the side of the boat thereby raising the bait and crabs from the bottom to the surface where they could be dipped with a net.

For the next three months Pete drew and redrew that diagram (right down to the links on the chains) on every piece of paper in the office until he was sure he knew absolutely everything about the construction & use of a trotline.

He made one and did his job well. I know because I was the dipper on many weekends and Pete was proud that we always pulled in a boatload of crabs.

Pete was a true character, and the world is less without him.

Joe Yunker - March 17, 2016 at 08:11 PM

MP

Lovely story! Thank you for sharing! :)

Maggie Pedersen - March 17, 2016 at 08:43 PM

JO

Thank you for your memory Joe - many happy times to remember - Working on the boat, the fence and the lower level of the house. Michael is now using the S.S. Pedersen in the Carolina waters, and that old trotline is still around.

Julie OConnell - March 18, 2016 at 03:46 AM



Thanks for the story Joe. I was his "dipper" also. He was not very happy when you missed a crab lol. Thought he might throw me over board.

Kimberly Fitzgerald Cobb - March 18, 2016 at 09:59 AM

MP

“ *Totally just thought of another funny occasion that was too good not to share!*

You know how when you have a thing of Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough that you get usually next to the eggs at the grocery store? Well, I asked dad to get them started on a cookie sheet and I guess I had to run out to my car or something. I came back to find the whole tube of cookie dough on the cookie sheet. I guess he thought that you aren't suppose to make multiple batches. Instead he thought 4-6 cookies per dough package was the proper way to make chocolate chip cookies.

It was right then and there our fate was decided we would become a homemade chocolate chip cookie duo. And that I would be responsible for baking said cookies.

Quirks are the best. And he had sooooo many more!

Maggie Pedersen - March 17, 2016 at 07:34 PM

JO

He always did have a hankering for large helpings :)

Julie OConnell - March 17, 2016 at 07:41 PM

MP

AND he used scissors. The directions specifically say 'spoon'. He was a very special individual.

Maggie Pedersen - March 17, 2016 at 07:42 PM

MP

“ I know it's strange putting a picture of pizza up for a tribute but I promise I had a point to saying 'he was like my roommate'. For a man who could cook anything- he was still willing to split a pizza with his college attending daughter.



Maggie Pedersen - March 17, 2016 at 01:45 PM

MS

“ Mary & Annie Seward lit a candle in memory of Bjorn Pedersen



Mary & Annie Seward - March 17, 2016 at 12:18 PM

JO

Thank you Mary and Annie xoxo

Julie OConnell - March 17, 2016 at 12:44 PM

MP

Thank you both! You guys are awesome!

Maggie Pedersen - March 17, 2016 at 01:34 PM

MP

“ Words cannot describe how much I am going to miss my dad. We had a quirk-filled relationship. That father/daughter relationship that you would find on a CBS sitcom during the Monday Comedy Lineup. My dad was more than just my father. He was my roommate (I promise, there is a point to that), my therapist, my academic adviser, my biggest supporter but most importantly, he was my friend. I have many memories of my dad I will never forget (most of the memories exhibiting his quirkiness). One time at the bank, I was inside and he parked his truck (mind you, this truck had a personality of it's own too) outside of the drive thru lanes, got out, and walked right up to the window to ask about their hours. At the time all I could do was hang my head and think 'how embarrassing.' Now, it's one of the funniest things ever. From this next story, one thing you have to take away is no matter how old you are, your parents can still help you with your homework. I had an assignment where I was playing lawyer for a individual that was busted for illegal substances (totally hypothetical). When I told my dad about this, he answered my question and followed it with, "Is this happening to someone you know?" I said "No." with a chuckle and will always chuckle when I tell this story. Every time I tell this story to anyone I feel it brighten their day a little more-as it will forever brighten mine. I also like to think that anyone who knew him knew he really only had one shirt (don't worry he had more, he even had a suit!). When I tried to purchase him another one (and I was successful!) he started wearing that same red, white and blue checkered IZOD shirt. There are many more stories that I have shared and will always treasure living with my dad. Talking politics (because who doesn't like talking politics with their parents??). Him wanting to start a conversation with me when I should have left the house five minutes ago. He got a new frying pan and he insisted I try the new frying pan. Every morning he made fried potatoes and onions....and then he would always leave the ketchup bottle on the counter. He would always laugh at the cats, he loved the cats. He would always watch Jeopardy as I would listen in the background if I was cooking dinner (I would always find myself trying to guess Final Jeopardy with him). Knowing the answer, but still asking "I'm going

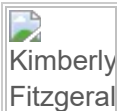
to such and such. Do you want anything?" Even the things that use to annoy me, I will forever miss. To name a few one-liners, "Will you be home for dinner?" or simply "Dinner?" "Have you eaten?" "Did you get something good to eat?" "What did you eat?" "How's school going?" "How are the grades?" "If you get a C, that's still fantastic." His protective, "I'm so glad you're home." "Is it raining?" "Is it snowing?" and my all time favorite- "Can you handle everything?" My dad supported me in his own special way. He supported me with my equestrian career. He supported me with every single club I was involved with as best as he could. I will never forget how proud he was when I told him I was going on a research trip to present one of my papers in Spokane, Washington last year. And how proud he was when I told him I was going again this year to present two of my papers in North Carolina. But still worried if I was able to handle everything. It will forever be these memories that I will always miss but at the same time keep near and dear to my heart. Sorry, dad. I never got to stick a "Salisbury University Dad" sticker on your truck. But thank you, for all that you have done for me. I really appreciated every bit of it. Until we meet again, my friend. We'll continue our conversation from Monday morning then. <3 I love you, pappa (Norwegian for 'dad' or 'daddy').

Maggie Pedersen - March 16, 2016 at 08:53 PM

JO

Well, Bjorn all I can say is you did a fine job raising her. I am so happy you asked for the opportunity to try your hand at being a full time Daddy. A job well done by good friend, a job well done

Julie OConnell - March 16, 2016 at 09:01 PM

 Kimberly Fitzgerald

Maggie, that was beautiful. I cried and laughed at the same time. Dad was very proud of you and all you had on your plate so to speak. I miss his "one liners". Anyway, thank you for bringing to surface some very precious memories.

Kimberly Fitzgerald Cobb - March 17, 2016 at 12:21 PM

AO

“ *Bjorn was the kindest and most intelligent I have met. He was always bringing vegetables from his garden and making sure all was OK. The last thing he did for us, was cut down my dead weeping willow, whenever I look out the widow, tears come to my eyes. I will miss you. Thank you for everything you have done. Adel*

Adel O'Rourke - March 16, 2016 at 05:22 PM

MP

Thank you, Professor O'Rourke.

Maggie Pedersen - March 16, 2016 at 07:26 PM

MP

“ *Maggie Pedersen lit a candle in memory of Bjorn Pedersen*



Maggie Pedersen - March 16, 2016 at 03:27 PM

RJ

“ *Rogie James lit a candle in memory of Bjorn Pedersen*



Rogie James - March 16, 2016 at 11:09 AM

MP

Thank you, Rogie! xoxo

Maggie Pedersen - March 16, 2016 at 03:22 PM

GL

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Maggie always remember he will be with you on every ride you take. "Enjoy your ride" sweet girl he was so proud.



Gina Lancaster - March 16, 2016 at 07:00 AM

MP

Thank you, Ms. Gina! xoxo!

Maggie Pedersen - March 16, 2016 at 03:23 PM

RG

“ Ron & Anne Grimes lit a candle in memory of Bjorn Pedersen



Ron & Anne Grimes - March 15, 2016 at 05:43 PM

MP

Thank you, Ron and Anne!

Maggie Pedersen - March 16, 2016 at 09:04 PM

RG

“ Kim,
"Pete" was the kindest man. He cut our grass and brought us fresh veggies from his garden. We like to refer to him as a "gentle giant". He will be missed. May God wrap his arms around you and your family and get you through this very difficult time. Your dad was very special.

Ron & Anne Grimes

Ron & Anne Grimes - March 15, 2016 at 05:42 PM



Kimberly Fitzgerald

Thank you for that Ron. I appreciate your kind words.

Kimberly Fitzgerald Cobb - March 16, 2016 at 06:41 AM

KC

“ *My dad was the most loving, caring, honest, hard working man I had ever known. He loved his children and did without so we had what we needed and or wanted. He taught me how important it was to keep my word and how to love and care for others. How to not be selfish. He was an awesome dad. Although he passed before I could visit as we had planned, I will forever remember all he has taught me and will see him again one day. Memories of our times together are and will always be with me and no one can ever take those. RIP Dad.*

kim cobb - March 15, 2016 at 03:24 PM



Kimberly Fitzgerald Cobb

“ *4 files added to the tribute wall*



Kimberly Fitzgerald Cobb - March 15, 2016 at 11:34 AM