

THANKSGIVING MASS for the CELEBRATION OF LIFE

PETER BRIAN BALLS

Sunrise 17 March 1936

Sunset 13 January 2022



St Ignatius Catholic Church, Walkers Road, Grand Cayman

22 January 2022

11:00 am

Burial at Prospect Cemetery

Family only

ORDER OF MASS

Processional Hymn

350 Sing a new song unto the Lord

Placing of the Pall

A white pall in remembrance of Peter's baptism is placed on the casket
by Carol Ann and Peter John

Placing of the Bible, Crucifix and Rosary

A Bible, crucifix and rosary are placed on the casket by Jackie and Rachael
as symbols that Peter was dedicated to God and the faith

Opening prayer

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First reading Wisdom 3: 1 – 6, 9

Lector: Suzanne Howden

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 27 The Lord is my light and my salvation

Cantor: Krista Wight

Second reading Romans 14: 7 – 9, 10c - 12

Lector: Elizabeth McDonald

Gospel Acclamation John 11: 25a, 26

Alleluia

Gospel John 11: 17 - 27

Homily

Prayers of the Faithful

Read by O'Neil Miller

Offertory Hymn

457 We come to you Lord

Sanctus

Eucharistic Prayer

Memorial Acclamation

Jesus, I Trust in You!

Great Amen

Our Father

Sign of Peace

Lamb of God

Communion

Communion Hymn

227 Look beyond the bread you eat

Meditation Hymn

Covenant Hymn, Solo by Krista Wight

Prayer After Communion

Final Commendation

Recessional Hymn

417 The Spirit lives to set us free



THE LIFE HE LIVED

Peter Brian Balls was born on 17 March 1936 in Lowestoft, Suffolk, England. He was the third of six boys born to William and Nancy Balls. Husband of Jackie Balls better known as Miss Jackie (Peter always joked that he was 'Mr. Jackie') he was Father of Carol Ann and Peter John, and Grandfather to Rachael.

Peter grew up in Heston, Hounslow, Middlesex and went to School at Spring Grove Grammar School in Isleworth, Middlesex. He was drafted into the Army after working a short time in the Anglo Portuguese Bank, London. He then served his country in the National Service of the British Army as a marksman for two years in Singapore and Malaya, and received Her Majesty The Queen's service medal with clasp Malaya.

In 1956 Peter joined Barclays Bank. In 1958 he travelled to the Caribbean on a banana boat arriving in Trinidad and then spent the next three years in different locations in Trinidad as the Bank's Relief Manager. In 1964 Peter was transferred to British Guiana where he met and married his 'Precious' Jackie Chung in 1965.

Peter and Jackie were married on 29 May 1965 in St. Andrew's Church in British Guiana "Guyana". They had two children. Daughter Carol Ann was born in Bridge Town Barbados, and son Peter John was born in Grand Cayman. One Grand-daughter Rachael, was born to his daughter Carol Ann. Peter and Jackie spent many years traveling the Caribbean. They lived in Barbados, St. Thomas in the US Virgin Islands, Tortola in the British Virgin Islands, Guyana, Jamaica and England as Peter's (aka the 'Hotshot Banking Guy') career moved him to different countries.

After spending three years in Jamaica as Assistant Accountant for Barclays Bank Main Office, Peter was transferred to Grand Cayman in 1972 as Manager of Barclay Bank PLC and Vice Chairman Cayman International Trust Company. After three years in Grand Cayman Peter was offered a prestigious promotion with Barclays Bank if he returned back to London. A big decision was to be made. The Balls family had fallen in love with the Island and the people of the Cayman Islands, and so with much apprehension, they decided to remain in Grand Cayman and hoped that Peter's work permit would be approved. Thankfully it was and the family continued to reside in Grand Cayman from that time until the present day.

Peter was employed in the Cayman Islands Government Finance Department as Manager of The Government Savings Bank, Manager of the Cayman Islands Currency Board and Assistant to the Financial Secretary at that time, Sir Vassel Johnson. From 1981 to 1984 Peter was Manager of J. Henry Schroeder Bank & Trust Company and then from 1985 to 1988 he joined Aall Trust & Banking Corporation as Manager. When Peter left Aall Trust he assisted with the establishment of Caledonian Bank & Trust Company in Grand Cayman. In 1990 Peter resigned from the banking industry and with Jackie, opened 'Petique' a retail gift and pet store in the Eden Centre on Walkers Road. Petique remained in operation until 2020.

On 30 April 1976 Peter was granted a Notary Public status and from the first day of his appointment, all notary services were done for charity and any donations collected were given to Missionaries of the Poor and other charities in Cayman. On 3 June 1980 Peter was granted Caymanian Status.

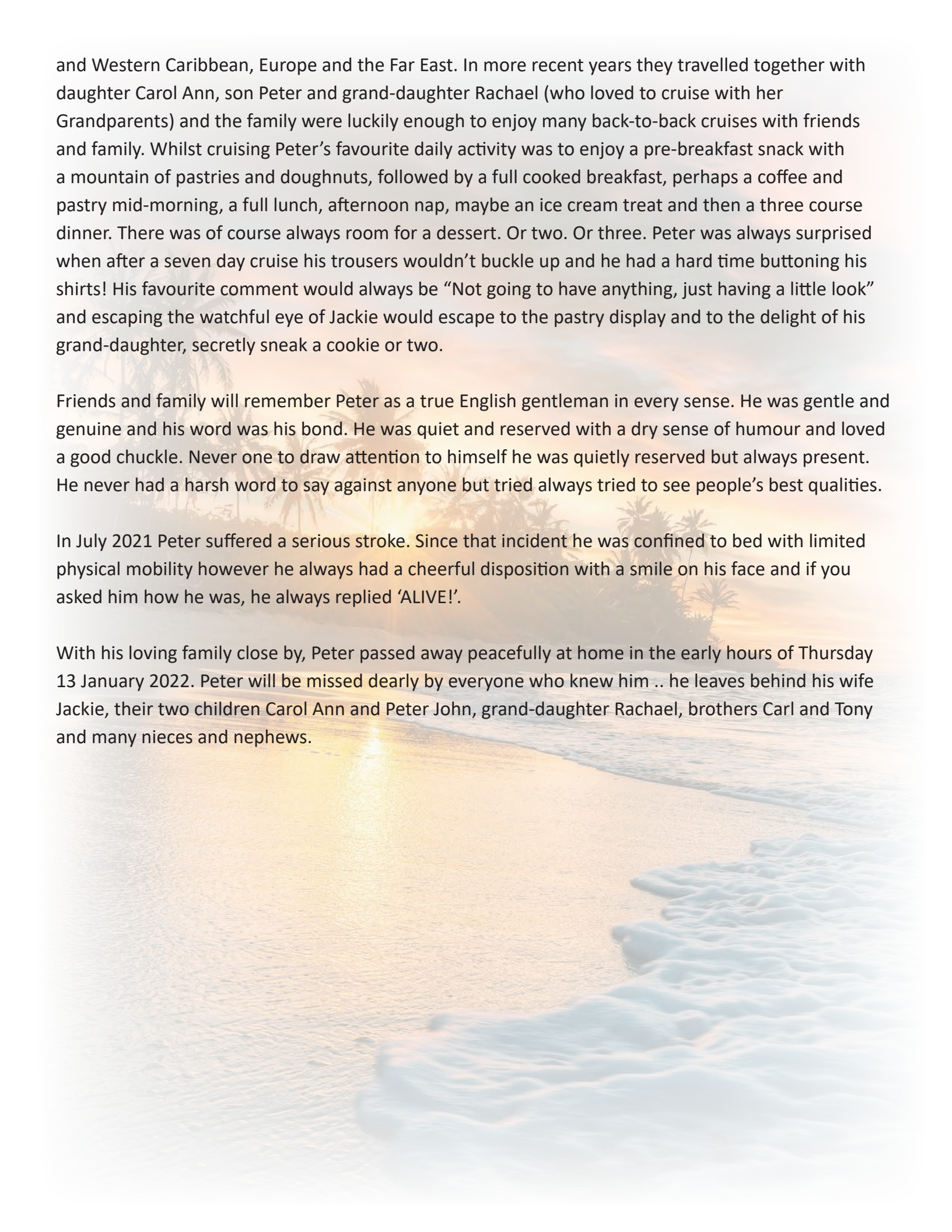
In 1975 when Peter and Jackie started building their first home in Newlands, Savannah, Grand Cayman their friends thought they were mad to build a house so 'far out' and they said it was too far from civilization (ie George Town). The family spent many years enjoying the quiet life of Newlands and living on the canal gave them access to the North Sound and Cayman Kai where Jackie's parents Louis and Wini Chung lived. Many a weekend was spent at Cayman Kai with their good friends, to name a few, Arthur and Karen Hunter, Sonny-Boy and Rose Bodden, David and Chi-Chi Foster as well as frequent boating visitors Bill and Carlene McTaggart and Spencer and Maxine Marshall. Summers would see the families gathered together to eat Grandma's famous sour sweet land crab and Louis Guyanese garlic pork or freshly caught fried 'barra'.

In the late 1990s the family flew to Canada to collect Peter John from boarding school and stopped in Miami so Peter could have a medical check-up. To their surprise they were told that Peter needed immediate heart surgery and that his heart needed a new valve. He underwent pioneering heart surgery at Baptist Hospital and was the first patient to receive a metal aortic heart valve. A photo of his surgery made history on the front cover of the Baptist Hospital's Health Magazine.

In 1999 the Balls family moved from their home in Newlands to Lacovia on Seven Mile Beach. Here Peter and Jackie spent the next twelve years enjoying the sun, sand and occasionally Peter dipped his toes into the sea. They were at Lacovia in 2004 when Hurricane Ivan roared through the Islands. In 2007 Peter and Jackie moved to their current home at The Venetia in South Sound. Peter could often be seen on his daily afternoon walks sauntering up the road and tending to his favourite pastime, kicking rocks off the driveway and picking dead leaves off the neighbour's hedges.

Peter was a very genuine and gentle person who had a lot of time for everyone and anyone who needed a listening ear. He would greet the ordinary man on the street with a handshake, listen to their story and if they needed assistance, would give them the only dollar he had in his pocket. He kissed all the ladies (even if he didn't know their names) and often times he would turn to Jackie and ask "Who was that?" after having planted said kiss. Peter's advice to young married couples was that to have a long and lasting happy marriage always answer "Yes Dear" which made Jackie frequently roll her eyes. Jackie smiles at the memory of Peter proposing to her after only three weeks of courting ... one year later they were married and this marriage lasted 57 years. That's a lot of 'Yes Dear's. In 1990 on their 25th Wedding Anniversary Peter and Jackie renewed their marriage vows in St. Ignatius Catholic Church and became strong supporters of the Catholic faith.

Peter loved to spend family holidays going on cruises and would always ask "When's our next cruise and where are we going?" Over the years Peter and Jackie enjoyed cruises in the Eastern



and Western Caribbean, Europe and the Far East. In more recent years they travelled together with daughter Carol Ann, son Peter and grand-daughter Rachael (who loved to cruise with her Grandparents) and the family were luckily enough to enjoy many back-to-back cruises with friends and family. Whilst cruising Peter's favourite daily activity was to enjoy a pre-breakfast snack with a mountain of pastries and doughnuts, followed by a full cooked breakfast, perhaps a coffee and pastry mid-morning, a full lunch, afternoon nap, maybe an ice cream treat and then a three course dinner. There was of course always room for a dessert. Or two. Or three. Peter was always surprised when after a seven day cruise his trousers wouldn't buckle up and he had a hard time buttoning his shirts! His favourite comment would always be "Not going to have anything, just having a little look" and escaping the watchful eye of Jackie would escape to the pastry display and to the delight of his grand-daughter, secretly sneak a cookie or two.

Friends and family will remember Peter as a true English gentleman in every sense. He was gentle and genuine and his word was his bond. He was quiet and reserved with a dry sense of humour and loved a good chuckle. Never one to draw attention to himself he was quietly reserved but always present. He never had a harsh word to say against anyone but tried always tried to see people's best qualities.

In July 2021 Peter suffered a serious stroke. Since that incident he was confined to bed with limited physical mobility however he always had a cheerful disposition with a smile on his face and if you asked him how he was, he always replied 'ALIVE!'.

With his loving family close by, Peter passed away peacefully at home in the early hours of Thursday 13 January 2022. Peter will be missed dearly by everyone who knew him .. he leaves behind his wife Jackie, their two children Carol Ann and Peter John, grand-daughter Rachael, brothers Carl and Tony and many nieces and nephews.

TRIBUTE FROM THE LIONS CLUB OF GRAND CAYMAN

To the Cayman Islands family of Lions, Charter member and Past President Peter Brian Balls was the consummate Lion. This humble, affable and highly intelligent gentleman possessed a rather calm demeanor. These marvelous attributes coupled with his sound understanding of the principles of lionism and his zeal to enhance the lives of all through passionate, humanitarian service are indelibly etched in the hearts and minds of his fellow lions and by extension the communities we serve.

It was inevitable that Lion Peter, a member of the Lions Club of British Guiana since 1964, would become an integral part of the group that viewed these islands as “prime, fertile ground” to plant a club and thus expand Lionism in this region. With Lion Peter’s relocation to manage Barclays Bank, George Town, Grand Cayman, vision became reality. The Lions Club of Grand Cayman received its Charter on November 2, 1972.

An astute observer and one who placed the well-being of the club before self, Lion Peter, the only member with Lionistic experience, insisted on proposing and supporting one who was familiar with and had the respect of the local community. Thus, Thomas Hurlston was elected Charter President and Past President Peter served as the club’s second President from 1974 to 1975.

Lion Peter’s term saw many firsts. These included a visit by the then President of Lions International from whom he received the Lions International Leadership Award. The Leo Club of Grand Cayman was also chartered during his term. The tremendous success of the Lions movement in these Cayman Islands can certainly be attributed to the solid foundation laid by Lion Peter and his Fellow Lions from Jamaica.

Lion Peter could easily be considered our MVP or Most Valuable Lion since its Charter in 1972. We are saddened and broken hearted by our passing brother Peter. We thank you and your family for your faithful service and selfless sacrifice and will be forever grateful for your accessibility, willingness to give sound advice and the gentle touch that spoke volumes of your care for your brothers and sisters.

Rest in peace brother Lion.

Rest in peace.

Celebrant: Rev Fr Naveen D'Souza SAC

Con-Celebrant: Rev Fr Anthony Fernandes SAC

Deacon: Rev Mr Joseph Biggs

Pall Bearers

Tim Balls, Alex Balls, Louis Chung III
Gaston Malony, Lennie Hew, Jennison Nunez

Honorary Pall Bearers

Stephen Chung, Derek Bogle, Paul De Freitas
Tip De Lisser, Brian Piraudeau, Peter Phillips

Organist

Albert Chin

Cantor

Krista Wight

Song of Reflection

'Jealous of the Angels'
Solo by Emily Mowbray

Guest Book Attendant

Fay Ann DeFreitas

Peter's family wish to express their gratitude to Rev Fr Naveen D'Souza, Rev Fr Anthony Fernandes, St Ignatius Catholic Church as well as family and friends for their support. Immense gratitude also to the Doctors and Nurses of Health City Cayman Islands and Jasmine for their exceptional and loving care. A special Thank You to Beth Garcia and Ingrid Swaby.

Please feel free to use the Jasmine envelopes provided for any donations which would be most welcomed and appreciated.