

First Generation



Peter Lea Heineman (Peter Edward², Wilhelm August³, John Henry⁴, John (Johannes)⁵ Heinemann, Johann Jost⁶, Johann Henrich⁷), son of Peter Edward Heineman and Doris Jean Crum was born in Council Bluffs, Iowa October 24, 1957.

Peter is the third child of Peter Edward Heineman and Doris Jean Crum. He attended Avenue B Elementary School which was five blocks from the family home at 2020 Avenue B. As an adult, he would purchase one of the architectural stones from the school's entrance when it was razed. He attended Woodrow Wilson Junior High which was also close to the home and later Thomas Jefferson High School where he graduated on May 8, 1976. Peter sang in the junior high chorus as well as the high school concert choir, madrigal, boys glee, and combined glee.

Along with his brother and sister, Peter played the violin, taking lessons from the concert master of the Omaha Symphony, Myron Cohen, until his junior year in high school and played in the junior high and high school orchestras earning numerous superior ratings as a soloist. As a high school senior he was elected Drum Major for the marching band and Senior Choir President. Peter plays a variety of instruments including the guitar, banjo, mandolin, lap dulcimer and is a piper in the Omaha Pipes and Drums.

He attended Iowa Western Community College where he graduated in 1978 and later transferred his Associate degree to the University of Nebraska at Omaha where he earned a Bachelor's (1980) and Master's Degree (1982) in science. He taught Anatomy and Physiology, Vertebrate Anatomy and Embryology, Basic Biology and Ecology as a graduate teaching assistant and began teaching in the Biology Department at Iowa Western Community College as adjunct faculty. He earned his Specialist Degree (1992) and Doctorate Degree (1997) from Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa.

Peter worked his way through college as an Assistant Produce Manager at the local Safeway grocery store until their closing in 1982. He applied for a fulltime position in the Continuing Education Division of Iowa Western Community College and held a variety of positions in the department until his departure to accept a position in the College of Continuing Studies at the University of Nebraska at Omaha where he eventually became the Director of Community Programs. Peter left the University to accept a position at Metropolitan Community College in Omaha, Nebraska where he served as the Director of the Workforce Development Institute, providing customized training, retraining and professional development programs for business and industry, and as Director of Institutional Research. In 2006 he left Metro to accept a position at Bellevue University as Director of Quality Assurance.

An avid Boy Scout, Peter earned the Eagle Scout with Bronze, Silver, Gold and Double Bronze leaves (42 merit badges), the God and Country award (Methodist), and NRA Sharpshooter award as a youth. As an adult, he earned the District Award of Merit and was one of the youngest recipients of the Silver Beaver Award for his work in researching and developing, with his father, the Charles Larpenteur Historic Trail in Little Sioux, Iowa.

An active sailor, Peter and his father raced "C" Scows in the Eastern Nebraska Sailing Association for more than a decade. As a sport diver, Peter and his father dove the islands of Grand Cayman, British West Indies; Bonaire, Netherland Antilles; Grand Turk, British West Indies; Roatan, Honduras; St. Lucia; Cayman Brac, British West Indies; Guanaja, Honduras; Dominica; Anegada, British Virgin Island; and St. Eustatius. He and his father and brother canoed the Queteco Wilderness Area of Canada and backpacked the Bighorn Mountains of Wyoming for many years.

An avid genealogist, Peter is a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, Sons of the American Revolution, Sons and Daughters of the Pilgrims, National Society of the American Colonists, Plantagenet Society, Continental Society Sons of Indian Wars, National Huguenot Society, Magna Charta Barons, Colonial Order of the Crown, Sovereign Colonial Society of American Colonists, and The Society of Descendants of Knights of the Most Noble Order of the Garter. Peter is the recipient of the Papal Order of St. Sylvester, the Order of San Marino, the Nobiliary Fraternity of the Nasc Niadh, Sovereign Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem, Imperial Ethiopian Order of St. Mary of Zion, the Royal Confraternity of Saint Teutonio, the Military and Hospitaller Order of St. Lazarus, the Ecumenical Order of Malta, The Most Illustrious Order of Naovarar, the Royal Order of the Eagle of Georgia and the Seamless Tunic of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Order of St. Andrew the First-Called, the Order of the Grand Master Prince Alfonse, the Order of the Crown of Egypt, and is a member of the International Commission and Association on Nobility. Peter is also a Kentucky Colonel.