

House Engrossed

death resolution; Dr. Peter Pingerelli

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-sixth Legislature
Second Regular Session
2024

HOUSE RESOLUTION 2009

A RESOLUTION

ON THE DEATH OF DR. PETER PINGERELLI.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Dr. Peter Pingerelli passed away on February 18, 2024 at the age
2 of 65.

3 A native of Detroit, Michigan, Peter Pingerelli grew up in an
4 Italian household. He and his family began confronting the effects of his
5 neuromuscular disease, spinal muscular atrophy (SMA), by his first
6 birthday. The physical limitations of his SMA led to his early
7 educational years occurring outside of the mainstream public educational
8 system. Eventually, he was enrolled in public school, an experience that
9 profoundly influenced the course of his future educational and career
10 goals.

11 Peter attended Fitzgerald High School before attending Wayne State
12 University where he received his Bachelor of Science degree in
13 Biology. He went on to earn his Ph.D. in Biophysics. While attending
14 Wayne State University, Peter met his future wife, Beverly. He would
15 frequent the lab where Beverly worked with poisonous dart frogs, calling
16 Bev his frog lady. Peter and Beverly were married for 35 years in a
17 relationship marked by commitment, growth and an unwavering belief in each
18 other. In 1995, they welcomed their first child, Kayla, followed by
19 Angela in 1997.

20 Peter always reminded his girls that "work is the essence of life,"
21 a testament to the value he placed on hard work and contribution. His
22 work experience included 25 years in the biotechnology industry directing
23 commercial research and development, product management and marketing as
24 an Academic Program Coordinator & Codirector of the Neuro-Proteomics
25 Laboratory at the Barrow Neurological Institute. Dr. Pingerelli was an
26 energetic educator and Associate Adjunct Faculty member at Grand Canyon
27 University where he also served on the science advisory board. He held a
28 specialized secondary STEM certificate through the Arizona Department of
29 Education. His publications included commercial and academic works in the
30 fields of neuroscience, biotechnology and space science and, more
31 recently, included publications and essays reflecting on education,
32 culture and disability. Dr. Pingerelli served two terms as a governing
33 board member on the Western Maricopa Education Center (West-MEC), focused
34 on career technical education opportunities for high school students and
35 adults. He also managed his wife's campaigns, leading to two successful
36 runs for the Arizona House of Representatives.

37 Peter Pingerelli spent his life advocating for reliance on one's own
38 abilities, uncovering the potential of those abilities and, in the face of
39 challenges, achieving personal well-being. His story is one of remarkable
40 resilience and a testament to what the human mind, body and spirit can
41 achieve and overcome if you make the choice to keep moving forward.

42 Therefore

43 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Arizona:

44 That the Members of the House of Representatives express sincere
45 regret at the death of Dr. Peter Pingerelli and extend their deepest
46 condolences to his surviving family members.