

The Reverend Peter Roberts Hale

Rev. Peter Roberts Hale, 75, of Beaufort, died Monday, November 12, 2012, in the Coronary Critical Care Unit at CarolinaEast Medical Center, New Bern, NC.

A Celebration of Life service will be held at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, November 24, 2012, at First Presbyterian Church, Morehead City, NC with the Rev. Timothy Havlicek and the Rev. Bart Edwards officiating.

Rev. Hale was born July 30, 1937, in Newton, NJ to Rev. Henry Ewing Hale, III and Lucy Sooy Roberts Hale. He graduated from Gloucester High School in 1956, attended Southwestern-At-Memphis and graduated from Arkansas College in 1961. In 1964, he graduated with a Master of Divinity from Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, Virginia.

Rev. Hale served churches in Virginia, Maryland and North Carolina. New Concord Presbyterian Church & Rustburg Presbyterian Church in Central Virginia were his first two churches. After marrying his wife Ann on November 30, 1968, the couple moved to the Eastern Shore of Maryland where he served Manokin Presbyterian Church. Back in Central Virginia, he served Appomattox Courthouse Presbyterian Church and Walkers Presbyterian Church. Woodburn Presbyterian Church, Leland, NC brought Rev. Hale back to the coast. He retired from his last full-time church, Poplar Tent Presbyterian Church, Concord, NC in 2002. In Beaufort, NC, Rev. Hale served as stated supply for Grace Presbyterian Church before serving as interim Associate Pastor at First Presbyterian Church in Morehead City, NC. After a successful battle with Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma, he became the Prayer Minister at First Presbyterian Church, leading the prayer group on Monday mornings.

Rev. Hale was a life-long student of languages and cultures. He often did his scripture readings in a dual-language Bible for whatever country and language he was currently studying. A military historian by hobby, his napkin sketches also reflected the war and era of his most recent interest. He always had a bag full of books, and he never stopped learning. Rev. Hale also served as a volunteer firefighter in Virginia and Maryland. In retirement, he was a member of Beaufort Ole Towne Rotary, the Morehead City Boating Club, the Fort Macon Civil War Round Table, and he volunteered at both The History Place of Morehead City and the Maritime Museum of Beaufort. He had friends from all walks of life and loved to tell stories/jokes with his dry sense of humor.

He is survived by his wife of almost 44 years, Ann Tomlinson Hale; daughter, Mary-Anna Hale DeSoto and husband, Michael, of Apex, NC; mother-in-law, Mary Ellen Tomlinson of Bedford, Virginia; brothers, Henry Ewing Hale, IV and wife, Betty, of Roxboro, NC, Rev. Dr. David Lippincott Hale and wife, Sarah, of Kingsport, Tennessee, Rev. Samuel Ward Hale and wife, Margaret, of Cullowhee, NC, Rev. Dr. Daniel Evans Hale and wife, Marcia, of Chester, Virginia; grandchildren, Ranleigh Astor DeSoto, Claire Effie DeSoto and Avery Elwain DeSoto; and additionally survived by Catherine Rameau Degdag and husband, Aziz, and their children, Emile, Noah and Marie, all of Germany.

His parents, Rev. Henry Ewing Hale, III and Lucy Sooy Roberts Hale preceded him in death. The family will receive friends at the church during a reception following the service.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations are suggested to Missionaries, c/o First Presbyterian Church, 1604 Arendell Street, Morehead City, NC 28557 or Carteret General Hospital Foundation for Raab Oncology Clinic, P. O. Drawer 1619, Morehead City, NC 28557.