

Chess Life Obituary
May 2004 Issue



Peter Kadyszewski
(February 7, 1951---March 9, 2004)

The Board of Directors of the Stuyvesant Chess Club and the Collins Kids organization are saddened to announce the recent death of Board president Peter Kadyszewski due to complications of juvenile diabetes a disease he battled most of his life. Peter will be missed for his vision of chess education, his leadership, and his work with kids.

Peter was a true amateur in the best sense of the word. He loved chess and wanted to share his love of the game with kids. A professionally trained psychologist and music teacher, Peter gave free chess lessons to anyone who stopped by his customary bench at the outdoor chess tables in Stuyvesant Town, a huge housing complex on the East Side of Manhattan. Peter was responsible for the complex's management erecting those tables, and it was not unusual to see kids rolling to the chess tables on skateboards or skates.

Peter had a knack for creating community. He made the chess tables an urban village where kids mattered. He worked with youngsters from all different racial and cultural backgrounds and tried to produce a genuine learning community characterized by the values of tolerance and mutual respect. He touched numbers of young people's lives and produced an enthusiastic cadre of young chess players many of whom would never have stayed with chess without his encouragement and support. He'll be missed.

Peter is survived by his younger sister Nadea Willenbucher and his older brother Edward and their respective families.