July 10, 2017

It is with great sadness that the Board of the Harold Alfond Foundation announces the passing of our fellow trustee, Peter Alfond. As a son of Harold Alfond, Peter was handpicked for the Board in 2007 by his father and served as a trustee until his passing yesterday. His many contributions to the Foundation’s work over the past decade are highlighted by his leadership on the boards or advisory groups of the Foundation’s grantees, most notably MaineGeneral Health and the Alfond Youth Center. Through these roles and many others he had in Central Maine and beyond, Peter gained insights which were invaluable to the Foundation and its giving.

A prominent philanthropist in his own right, Peter supported educational, healthcare, and other charitable causes in Maine, New England, and the Caribbean through the Peter Alfond Foundation. His passion for alternative health care practices led his foundation to award $4 million to MaineGeneral Medical Center to establish and endow the Healthy Living Resource Center. The only program of its kind in the U.S., the Center focuses on healthy eating and cooking, physical movement, stress management, and mind-body therapies.

Throughout his life, Peter was guided by lessons he learned through business. He was a retired senior executive of Dexter Shoe Company, where he was president of PanAm Shoe, the base of Dexter’s Caribbean operations. His thirty-year tenure was marked by many successes, but he was proudest of the strong relationships he formed with PanAm employees and of the company’s economic investments in the Caribbean. In 2001, the town of Camuy, Puerto Rico named a street after him in recognition of his contributions.

Peter will be remembered for his philanthropy and his business success, but, even more so, he will be remembered for his many endearing personal qualities—his kindness, his creativity, his curiosity for the world, his passion for healthy living, and his love of his family, friends, and the people of Central Maine. He was one of a kind, and will be greatly missed.

Gregory W. Powell
Chairman