

There are so so many memories of Tripp that stick out, and I will definitely be adding more as they pop up in my brain. His constant wittiness and quick comebacks were unmatched. I already miss everything about him and it truly will not be the same without him here. To an amazing colleague, mentor, and friend~ you will be remembered always. ❤️

“Tripp”/“Peter”/“PDT”-

From Day 1, I have known Tripp as such... Tripp. I've always made it known to probably everyone that referring to him as “Peter” was so weird to me and that the only person that truly sounded normal doing so (in my opinion) was Chelsea. Even now, I can look back and laugh at the many times I audibly gagged in front of others, and him, when people called him Peter because it sounded so wrong to me. He always got a chuckle out of that. When discussing fond memories of him now, “Peter” seems to fit him so perfectly, and I wonder why I never took a likeness to it before.

In our notes at work, Tripp's initials would be listed as “PDT.” Whenever anyone includes their middle initial, it's human curiosity to wonder what it stands for. So we of course asked and asked and liked to see if we could guess what it was. Made it into a little game, if you will. He wouldn't give it up for the longest time. He would consistently tell us his middle name was “Danger” and leave it at that. He would never falter and was quick to say it in such a casual way that if you didn't know him well enough, you might just believe him.

It wasn't until we had learned of his passing, that Jules at one point in the day stopped in their tracks and said “wait, is his middle name really Danger? I never got to find out.” Of course this caused me to immediately start sobbing.. It was just so typical Tripp to keep people guessing with something silly like that. His humor is something none of us will ever forget or be able to replace. For those who didn't know, including me, (lol I thought it was either Daniel or David)... it's David :)

Handwriting-

Anyone that knows Tripp's writing knows that his penmanship is the worst thing anyone has ever laid their eyes on.. so much so that we forbid him from writing on the pharmacy rx pad. Lol.

Recently, when submitting a tumor for histopathology, I complimented him on his very thorough and TYPED explanation on the antech lab sheet. He replied with “yeah I kept getting really annoyed because all my antech reports kept coming back as “illegible” when I hand-wrote it.” Gee, can't imagine why!

Texts/Social Media-

Over time, Tripp texted me many pictures and videos of cute patients he had on days I wasn't there or when he saw that I was busy and was unable to snap a quick picture or video. The picture and image quality wasn't always the best but he was so loyal for social media content! Not to mention the best audio on some of the videos he would send, you could hear him in the background saying “aren't you so adorable” or similar statements to entice the dog to come

closer to the phone. (Shared these audios in the photo memory section- be sure to turn your volume up! 😊)

He would often send texts and emails, unprompted, with great articles to post for our socials, and solid references for client education. Sometimes, even just a funny dog picture- more recently it was a “find the pug picture”, which was undoubtedly adorable and hysterical all in one.

Every now and then, while Tripp was performing dental procedures, he would call me over to get pictures of dental X-rays and teeth pre and post extraction as good learning material for our clients regarding the importance of dental health. If I were busy during a dental he was performing or if I was out that day, he would often come to me later and say “ya missed a good one!”. I could always count on him to try and help me, our techs, and our clients learn more.

Tripp was the first person to send me information for our new ‘meet the team’ section on Instagram and it really seemed like he was excited to share a little bit about himself. It was and is obvious that his clients and patients absolutely adored him. Some of whom had pets grow up under Dr. Tripp since they were just babies at 8 weeks old!

Peter and I have been friends on Facebook for a while. He would always be one of the first to like or laugh at my random posts and memes. He constantly shared hilarious or informative pictures, articles, etc. It always gave me a lot of joy knowing we shared the same humor. To this day, I miss seeing his name pop up in my notifications as liking or laughing at my posts.

Dental Contest-

Tripp had recently started a dental competition amongst the doctors, just for some good ol’ friendly competition. The point was to see who could extract the most teeth (by weight in grams) by the end of the month. Obviously, he started this competition on a day where he had a full mouth extraction so that he would be winning by a landslide.

I think he would be happy to know, he definitely won. No contest. 19.8g! 😊

At Work-

The first time I met Tripp (and Chelsea) was when we first started curbside. He had just been hired and none of us had seen him or met him yet. I was outside helping a patient to the car when I saw a young man and woman, in normal attire, approaching the door. At this point, we were encouraging clients to remain in their vehicles instead of trying to come in. So of course, I stop them outside and say “I’m so sorry, we’re currently curbside and are asking that you remain in your vehicle and call us to check in.”

To which, the young man replies: “Oh, no, I’m Dr. Tripp! I’m just stopping by to meet everyone.” I was so embarrassed, lol! I wasn’t expecting someone so young-looking to be our new veterinarian! So of course I let them inside, but am face-palming the whole way back to the treatment area. Come to find out, PDT was only 3 years older than me, obviously why I thought he looked so young and mistook him for a client, in plain clothes. Although “young”, he was so

incredibly smart and knowledgeable. He brought a lot of great medicine to our hospital. The youngins are where it's at!!! We love a fresh perspective :). He meshed with all of us right away, too. He made his job look easy, and I KNOW that it definitely isn't.

It was very seldom that I got to work with Dr. Tripp as his appt tech, something I made sure everyone knew I was butthurt about. He was, of course, a crowd favorite; we had to legit beg Bryan to let us be on his appt schedule. There was one day specifically that I recall working with him. We had a patient that was declining and presenting in pretty bad shape. I went to relay this to Tripp and used the words "this patient looks like its on its last leg". Of course, without missing a beat, Tripp replies "well what happened to the other 3 legs???" He always had such a quick comeback. And although he took the decline of this patient seriously, he never wanted the mood in the room to be anything but light, if he was able to make it so.

Bestie-

This was a moment between Bepherly and Dr. Tripp that I happened to be in the room for but will never forget. Bepherly had just come out of Dog Room and said "hey bestie, I have a question" aloud to the room. With his back turned and not even seeing who the conversation was directed towards, Tripp responded in the same second "Sure, what's up?". She was, in fact, talking to him. She and I both broke out into giggles at the fact that he simply just knew. It was such a sweet and funny moment to witness and really spoke to the relationships he formed with all of us.

Surgery-

Oh, how I will miss writing "Trippy Taco Sx" on the white board on Fridays. Dr. Tripp constantly had full surgery days and handled them with such grace. The stress he showed us was minimal and it seemed like anything thrown his way was something he could handle. He was constantly given the short end of the stick- running out of meds, oxygen, etc, by his Friday surgery day and he always had to make due. He never complained and always came up with a new plan with such positivity. He encouraged us to see the bright side even in our frustrations. He constantly tried to find solutions that would make it easier on US, when he was dealing with just as much frustration, if not more. He was the only doctor to constantly take into account all the clean up that needed to be done after surgery and didn't open up his schedule sometimes, even if finished early, in order to give his techs an adequate break and time to prepare for the few evening appts that followed. He was always so considerate of us and all that we had to do. Although I was not one of his main surgery techs, I loved the days I got to fill in and work closely with him.

My brother had the pleasure of taking his new puppy, Garbanzo, to Tripp when they first adopted him. There was plenty of options for doctors at BR to see G but I wanted them to see Tripp specifically because he reminded me so much of my brother, Brent. I knew they would take a likeness to each other when they met. Garbanzo had been diagnosed cryptorchid for a while, something my brother was worried about in regards to doing a more invasive neuter/ abdominal surgery. Tripp was so excited when Garbanzo's remaining testicle finally dropped and made sure to celebrate this moment with my brother and I. Legit celebration. It gave my

brother so much ease when he finally did get Garbanzo neutered with him. I am so grateful that they got to meet Tripp and had his amazing guidance when raising Garbanzo as he has grown up from a puppy to a now 1 year old.

Outside of Work-

I was lucky to have gotten to know Peter not only at work, but outside of work as well. He was the first one to always be down to join us at brunch or for drinks on the weekend. And he always brought Chelsea❤️. I always enjoyed his conversation and random theoretical questions.

Our outings don't feel the same without him. We could always count on him to join us and we loved being around him. It meant a lot to us that he would still make time for us in his free time, despite spending all his time at work with us throughout the week.

Peter and Chelsea-

These two. Their love story is one that I never get tired of hearing. I remember the first time I heard them tell it at Wundergarten. They were both there and took turns telling their part to the story. It was such a precious moment to see them both so eager to share the early moments that had brought them together. It was clear that they both loved their story and both loved sharing it with others. As we got to know Peter more closely, it became clear that wherever he went, Chelsea came too. They were two peas in a pod and totally inseparable. As much as Chelsea likes to tell people how much they were opposites, it was so obvious to everyone how perfect they were for each other. I am so grateful for the memories that I've shared with both of them and am gracious for Peter to have allowed us to get to know Chelsea closely too. ❤️