

ILLUSTRATIONS

All photographs in this book not specifically credited are from the Peter E. Palmquist Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut.

A POSTSCRIPT BY THOMAS R. KAILBOURN

On Saturday, January 11, 2003, Peter E. Palmquist sent me an e-mail approving the final revisions of the captions for this book, thus effectively concluding work on the manuscript. He expressed his wish for his dedication of the book to be to his brothers, wrote of his and Pam Mendelsohn's upcoming wedding celebration and my plans to attend, and mentioned that "I am leaving shortly for the Bay Area and will be back on Thursday." That evening, after arriving at Pam's apartment in Emeryville, California, Peter was killed by a hit-and-run driver.

Peter lived an extremely useful life. He was generous with information and good advice, and he delighted in encouraging new talent. The more than 60 books and 340 articles he published only begin to suggest what an indefatigable human dynamo he was. His home in Arcata, California, was virtually a one-man mini-college campus, where scholars and collectors were welcome to come and use his vast research collections.

Peter said if you learned to "follow your nose," you would accomplish great things in research. Although at times it seemed as if he was tuned in to some great, open channel to the secrets of photographers past, certain nagging mysteries eluded his solution. He didn't live long enough to discover, as he had hoped, what *really* happened to Robert H. Vance's "Lost 300" daguerreotypes, but he filled in far more than his share of the mosaic we photo-historians continue to work on.

While all too many researchers have held tight to their discoveries even to their graves, Peter understood that we advance knowledge only by interacting and sharing what we know. To ensure that his work will long continue to benefit scholars, Peter saw to it that his research and photographic collections will be preserved at the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Yale University.

I shall miss Peter's cheerful presence and unflagging energy. His sense of humor helped me through many difficult periods. During one particularly grueling writing project, he asked me, "Do you hate that manuscript yet?" "Yes," I admitted. "Good," he chuckled, "that always means you're at least half-way finished!"

Although Peter is no longer with us physically, his work and shining examples will live on. Future historians will learn to their delight that he left for them many guideposts and roadmaps to the writing of photo history.