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Artist Peter Hunt Dies In Orleans

Memorial services were held yesterday at the Church of the Holy Spirit, Orleans, for internationally known artist and decorator Peter Hunt, who lived and worked in Provincetown for many years. Rev. G. David White, vicar of the church, officiated. Mr. Hunt, 71, was found dead last Friday in his Orleans home.

He had recently returned from a vacation in Florida where he visited his sister, Mrs. Robert T. Heist of Boca Raton, whose Summer home is in Wellfleet. At Palm Beach he had visited the Wellfleet Gallery there of Thomas Gaglione of Wellfleet, who was also the artist's friend.

Shortly after Mr. Hunt's visit Mr. Gaglione sent The Advocate a note telling of it and enclosing the photograph of the artist which appears above.

Mr. Hunt came to the Cape more than a quarter of a century ago and by his own account, somewhat by accident. He had been the guest on a yacht which put into Provincetown Harbor for shelter during a blow and with his first sight of the town, he said, he fell in love with it.

He came here shortly afterwards to remain until 1950, when he moved to Orleans Cove and established workshops and galleries there.

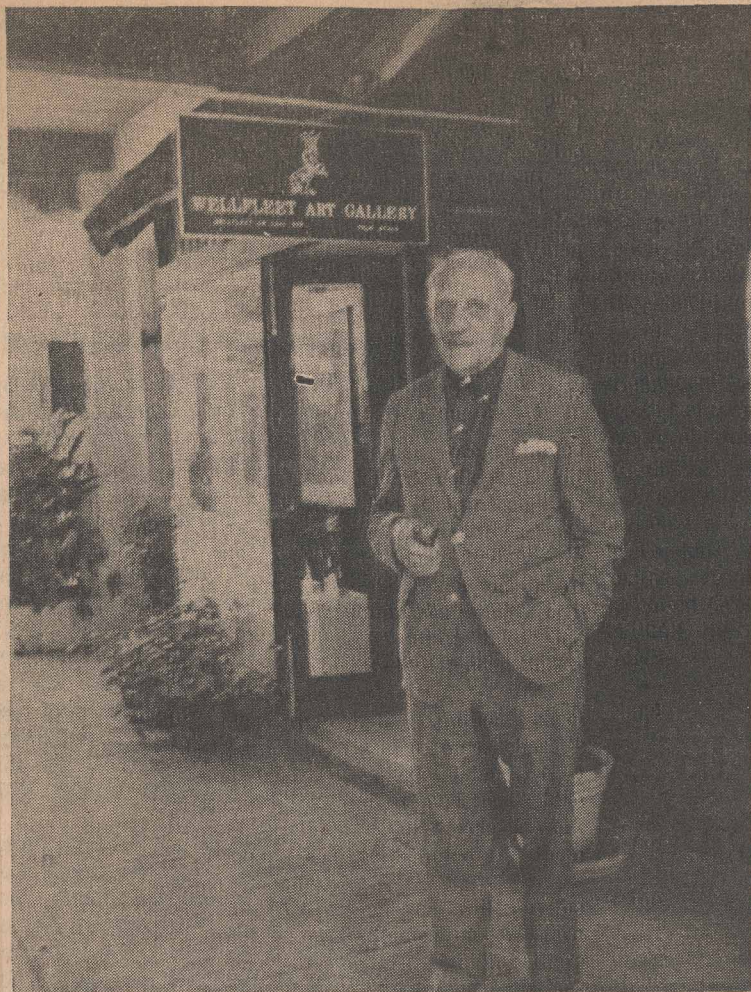
He was born in New York City, the son of Edward Hunt also an artist, and Anna Lowe Hunt. As a youth he made numerous trips with his parents to Europe where he was attracted to European peasant

art. He became devoted to this decorative art which he later adapted to his own design in furniture.

His colorful furniture decoration was to win him fame in his own country and to revive in Europe an appreciation of the neglected peasant art of decoration. He served with American forces in France in World War I and remained there after it ended, becoming a member of a circle of artists and writers that included such figures as James Joyce, Ernest Hemingway and John Dos Passos.

In Provincetown his studio home, known as Peter Hunt's Peasant Village, was in Kiley Court. The popularity of his furniture decoration was then making his name a byword. Mr. Hunt was also a decorator and executed decorating commissions for many prominent persons including the late Helena Rubenstein. He worked during the past Winter on the decorating scheme of the Cape Cod Room in the Drake Hotel in Chicago.

Friendly in temperament, the artist was host here and in Orleans to many friends and visitors from the Cape and distant places. A scholarship in his name, to be administered by the Cape Cod Bank and Trust Company, is to be known as the Peter Hunt Scholarship.



Only a short time before his death in Orleans, Peter Hunt visited Tom Gaglione at his Wellfleet Art Gallery in Palm Beach, Florida. Tom took this picture of Peter in front of the gallery.

