Peter Magnant is five eighths Chippewa and a member of the Keweenaw Bay Native Indian Community L'Anse Reservation in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. He was born in Detroit, Michigan but spent most of his life in Indiana.

He has an undergraduate bachelor degree in philosophy, and he an associate degree in nursing as well as a master's degree in Allied Health Education from Indiana University. A doctorate in occupational education was achieved in 1991 from Indiana University.

Peter's full-time working career started at Marion County General Hospital as an emergency medical technician (EMT) and he eventually taught the class for EMT's which he brought to Ivy Tech in 1974 as the Program Chair of Emergency Care Technology. He was instrumental in developing and teaching many courses at the college as well as starting new programs as he rose to the position of Division Chair of Health at the college. He worked at Ivy Tech College for almost 40 years and retired in 2014.

He now enjoys his retired life of traveling, reading and maintaining his health by exercising. He finds enjoyment in learning about his Indian ancestors and the various principles and practices of the Red Path.