



Douglas D. Knutson

October 16, 1957 - January 1, 2026

Douglas D. Knutson, age 68, passed away on January 1, 2026. He was born on October 16, 1957, the son of Arthur and Elizabeth (Stemsrud) Knutson.

Doug was a dedicated educator, coach, and mentor who left an indelible mark on Northwest Indiana high school athletics. His professional life was rooted in his passion for teaching, leadership, and sports. He spent many years at North Newton High School as a Biology and Health Science teacher, where he also coached baseball, golf, and football, and later served as Athletic Director for twenty years. He continued his career at Boone Grove High School as Athletic Director and was instrumental in starting their football program, proudly serving as the Wolves' first head football coach before retiring. Doug also shared his knowledge at the collegiate level, serving as the men's and women's golf coach at Saint Joseph's College.

Beyond his professional accomplishments, Doug was a man of deep and steadfast faith. He was a faithful Christian and attended and volunteered at First Church in Wheatfield, where his life reflected his commitment to serving God and others. His faith guided his relationships, his leadership, and the way he encouraged those around him.

In his personal time, Doug was an avid golfer and a familiar face at Sandy Pines Golf Club, where he volunteered with the Junior Golf Program. He also

enjoyed the fellowship of local bowling leagues and many spirited games of Euchre. Above all else, Doug's greatest joy was his family. He was a constant presence at his grandchildren's sporting events, proudly serving as their most devoted mentor, supporter, and fan.

Doug is survived by his loving children, Rae (Elizabeth) Knutson of Minneapolis, Minnesota, Steven (Katie) Knutson of DeMotte, Indiana, and Lauren (Matthew) Williams of Lake Village, Indiana; six grandchildren, Carter, Emeri, Presley, Elias, Brant, and Collier; his mother, Bette Knutson; and his sister, Julie Bramwell of Tomah, Wisconsin. He was preceded in death by his father, Arthur Knutson.

Friends may visit at First Church, Wheatfield on Thursday, January 8, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., with a funeral service to follow at 12:00 p.m., officiated by Pastor John Hill. Interment will follow at Roselawn Cemetery. Memorial contributions can be made in Doug's name to First Church (<https://first.church/give/>)

Cemetery Details

Roselawn Cemetery

Roselawn Cemetery
Roselawn, IN 46372

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 8. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

First Church
5387 W State Road 10
Wheatfield, IN 46392
(219) 987-5156
<http://www.first.church>

Funeral Service

JAN 8. 12:00 PM (CT)

First Church
5387 W State Road 10
Wheatfield, IN 46392
(219) 987-5156
<http://www.first.church>

Tribute Wall



“ Jackson Funeral Chapels created a Tribute Video in memory of Douglas D. Knutson



Jackson Funeral Chapels - January 07 at 02:59 PM

AW

Doug you will be missed, you were such a great person. Euchre wont be the same without you.

Angie Williams - January 08 at 12:13 PM

GK

“ I met Doug in 2000 when he hired me as his golf coach at Boone Grove HS. He soon became my friend as well as my boss. He was a good mentor to me during my coaching years for him and became a good friend as well. To all the family I want to tell you how lucky you are to have him as your father, grandfather and husband. I will truely miss him.

Gary KING - January 11 at 11:28 AM

BK

“*Doug was an amazing, loving, kind, thoughtful, giving man of integrity, a good friend, coach, teacher, son, brother, father/stepfather, "Papa", uncle and my loving husband. I will always be grateful for the life we shared. He and I were married on October 24, 2001.*

I had 2 teenagers still at home at the time and he always treated them with respect and love. My oldest daughter, Laura, had already moved away by then but that didn't make a difference to Doug. He welcomed all of my children with a positive loving outlook!

One example of his devotion to them was that Doug continued to work at St Joseph's College for 5 extra years (even though he had planned to leave) in order to have my son Luke receive free tuition until his graduation.

Doug was the "life of the party" in the most subtle of ways with his positive attitude.

He encouraged and loved his students in the classroom, as well as on the athletic fields, so much so that we hardly ever had a "date" without being happily joined by an ex-student! This occurred so often that I'd tease him about his "popularity" and the interruption of our "romance" on many occasions! But it never got old to witness, especially when it even happened when we'd travel to other states! He'd often received letters of gratitude and thanks for changing the lives of his students and I was always affected by it and the way Doug was so touched by them.

What I'm trying to express is that he was deservedly loved by many and he positively impacted so many lives.

Mine especially.

And I was his "biggest fan" too.

I truly fell head over heels for him, with his beautiful blue eyes, the instant I met him at my daughter Kelley's softball game.

We were married 6 months later, and it lasted for 21 years.

*He was "family" to me, my children and their spouses, and our grandchildren.
He was "Doogie" to Luke, and "Papa" to our grandkids.
Doug loved deeply.
He loved God.
He loved All his children.
He loved his friends.
He loved his students.
He loved my Mother and my extended families.
He loved All his Grandchildren and he loved me!
He also loved our dog, Missy! I am sure she greeted him in heaven.*

*We were best friends during our marriage and even after.
We always continue loving and taking care of each other.
We spoke several times on New Years Eve and I wish I had known
it would be our last conversation on earth. I would have shared my
heart more.*

*I know he is in a beautiful place, feeling and looking renewed,
surrounded by other loved ones, golfing with my Dad and our dear
friend Evan & Mike Atwood, hugging my Mom, gambling with his
dad & uncles, taking care of the garden with grandpa Elmer to bring
beauty for grandma Frances and joking with my brother
Damien...but especially he is in the arms of Jesus.*

*We had a standing joke in our family that Doug always "maintained
his station" (nothing could be crooked or out of place), so honey, I
will continue to maintain the station in your honor.*

*You were the love of my life that was taken from me twice.
I miss you everyday. The tears will continue to flow until we meet
again.
Thank you for being in mine and my families life, we will miss and
love you forever!*

*Doug and I always signed our letters to one another "Always and
Forever, I love you"*

*On that note...
Always and Forever,
I love you, Doug.
Till we meet again...
RIP*

Barbara Ambrosia Knutson - January 09 at 02:55 PM

TT

“ *Was my high school science teacher and one of my favorite teachers always looked forward to seeing him in class.*



Tammy Tichacek/Moseley - January 09 at 01:45 PM

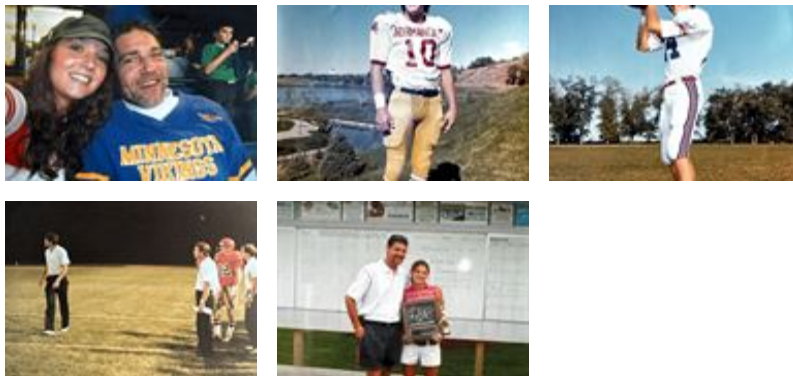
KA

“ *Kirk A. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Douglas D. Knutson.*

Kirk A. - January 07 at 02:46 PM



“ *88 files added to the album LifeTributes*



Jackson Funeral Chapels - January 07 at 02:38 PM

TK

“ Tom and Kathy Kleban planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Douglas D. Knutson.

Tom and Kathy Kleban - January 07 at 01:30 PM

TS

“ The Horner's & Spitznagle's purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of Douglas D. Knutson.



The Horner's & Spitznagle's - January 07 at 09:48 AM

BA

“ Barbara purchased the Forever Our Angel Bouquet for the family of Douglas D. Knutson.



Barbara - January 07 at 07:51 AM

BA

“ Barbara planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Douglas D. Knutson.

Barbara - January 07 at 07:51 AM

AR

“ Rest easy, duplex buddies & Regular at Sandy Pines.
What a great guy you were! 💕💕



Alexis Riale - January 07 at 12:21 AM

AW

“ I will miss you at Euchre, I am glad I got to know you,



Angie Williams - January 06 at 10:47 PM

DL

“ 1 file added to the album Good friends and love!!



Debra Lindy - January 06 at 05:37 PM

WP

“ With Sympathy, Your PTSC Wolf Pack planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Douglas D. Knutson.

With Sympathy, Your PTSC Wolf Pack - January 06 at 03:04 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Douglas D. Knutson.*



January 06 at 03:04 PM



“ *Worked with Doug at Boone Grove always upbeat and professional. So sorry to hear of his passing gone to soon but Gid has other plans.*

Rae Jean Flesvig - January 06 at 11:53 AM



“ *Judy Burvan lit a candle in memory of Douglas D. Knutson*



Judy Burvan - January 06 at 09:56 AM



“ *Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Douglas D. Knutson.*



January 06 at 09:26 AM

TB

“ TJ, Kendall, Carson, and Elin Bramwell planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Douglas D. Knutson.

TJ, Kendall, Carson, and Elin Bramwell - January 06 at 09:26 AM

DH

“ Debra Lindy and Mike Heinold purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Douglas D. Knutson.



Debra Lindy and Mike Heinold - January 05 at 10:01 PM

DH

“ Debra Lindy and Mike Heinold planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Douglas D. Knutson.

Debra Lindy and Mike Heinold - January 05 at 10:01 PM

MW

“ Matt Gibson / Jenn Whaley planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Douglas D. Knutson.

Matt Gibson / Jenn Whaley - January 05 at 09:42 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Douglas D. Knutson.



January 05 at 09:42 PM



“ 28 files added to the album Good friends and love!!



Debra Lindy - January 05 at 09:30 PM



The album title is supposed to be Good friends and love!!

Debra Lindy - January 05 at 09:39 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Douglas D. Knutson.



January 05 at 08:58 PM

TD

“ Tom Burke & Shannon Donovan purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Douglas D. Knutson.



Tom Burke & Shannon Donovan - January 05 at 06:32 PM

TD

“ Tom Burke & Shannon Donovan planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Douglas D. Knutson.

Tom Burke & Shannon Donovan - January 05 at 06:32 PM

LF

“ Love: Mike & Kristin Bramwell Family purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Douglas D. Knutson.



Love: Mike & Kristin Bramwell Family - January 05 at 06:07 PM

CW

“ Billy and Candy Wiseman



Candy Wiseman - January 05 at 06:07 PM

DB

“ David And Kim Berenda lit a candle in memory of Douglas D. Knutson



David and Kim Berenda - January 05 at 06:01 PM

LM

“ Very sorry to Coach Knutson’s family. He was one of my inspirations!
Leslie Miller

Leslie Miller - January 05 at 05:48 PM

BS

“ To the family of Knutson I am sorry for your loss i’ve known him for many many many years. He was really good friend. He’s gonna be missed, but he will never be forgotten in our hearts. May shine down on your family and friends. RIP my friend.



Beaver Soley - January 05 at 05:35 PM

AS

I’ve been blessed with the friendship of Doug or coach as I forest knew him through sports officiating them later as anAD and golf. He was always the first one to greet you, Professional at all time, and a friendly face during any sporting event. He will be dearly missed at Sandy Pines for sure.

Andy Simpson - January 05 at 05:53 PM

HH

“ *Helen Hershman lit a candle in memory of Douglas D. Knutson*



Helen Hershman - January 05 at 05:15 PM

MA

“ *Michael and Ashley Atwood purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Douglas D. Knutson.*



Michael and Ashley Atwood - January 05 at 04:41 PM