



Douglas Sands Karhan

February 22, 1942 - November 11, 2021

Douglas S. Karhan, age 79, entered into heaven's glory on Thursday, November 11, 2021. He was a brilliant, sarcastic, opinionated, funny man who knew so much about so many things. He was an avid reader and lifelong learner of a variety of interests.

Doug was born in New York and later moved to Baltimore, Maryland where he graduated from Baltimore Polytechnic Institute in 1959. He proudly served in the US Air Force from 1964 to 1968 as a Radar Specialist. He began his first career at Baltimore Gas & Electric Company as a Steam Plant Operator and worked there for 18 years.

Doug began his steam locomotive career by volunteering to work for Southern Railroad's steam program in Alexandria, Virginia in the mid-1970s. In 1976 he was hired by Southern Railroad in Alabama as General Foreman. He was later promoted to Master Mechanic-Steam in 1982. He retired from Norfolk Southern in 2000.

Doug then moved to Colorado to fulfil a lifelong dream of hiking, river rafting, and collecting Native American pottery and artifacts. After retirement, Doug spent the winters in Chattanooga lending his valuable experience to the Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum.

Doug is preceded in death by his father, Joseph Thomas Karhan and mother Rosemary Sands Karhan. He is survived by his sister Victoria Webb (George)

his sons, Joseph Karhan (Leah), Michael Karhan (Jamie), and daughter Katherine Amberson (Lee) and 15 wonderful grandchildren.

He was full of stories of all of his life's adventures and will be very missed! He loved the Lord and professed his faith in Jesus until the end of his life. The family plans a private family graveside service in Alabama. Friends can make honorarium contributions in Doug's name to The Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum, The National Rifle Association of America, or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Tribute Wall



“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Don Sharpe - December 13, 2022 at 11:17 AM

JB

“ This is Karen and jd black. We are no longer with Airbnb but you can call us at nine seven zero five six zero three four two four.

JD and Karen Black - March 27, 2022 at 01:35 PM

AF

“ Doug will truly be missed by our family. I looked forward to the books he sent me every year for my birthday. He also encouraged my daughter Katie in her fond desire of learning about rocks. He sent her several books on rocks and even gave her a rock pick set to feed her desire of learning rocks. I will miss the conversations we had when I would visit my mom in Pleasant View. Rest in peace, Doug. Autumn Fury

Autumn Fury - November 23, 2021 at 09:32 PM

AR

“ Thanks Doug for all the great memories you gave to Heidi and myself. We had so much fun kayaking the Dolores and Animas river with you!! So many stories that made us laugh and cringe!! And the pizza afterwards was really great cause we were so cold!! We also enjoyed a lot of hikes through the canyons and drinking cherry soda. We will miss you Doug!!! Angie and Heidi Rohwer!

Angela Rohwer - November 23, 2021 at 07:27 PM

JC

“ Jamie Daves, Pleasant View, CO purchased the Fiery Lily and Rose for the family of Douglas Sands Karhan.



Jamie Daves, Pleasant View, CO - November 16, 2021 at 12:00 PM

KA

“ A few favorite pics of my dad ❤️



Katie - November 15, 2021 at 11:46 AM



I'm late finding about Doug's passing, and I with Tom Atkinson worked at shop with him and Mr. Purdie in 1974-75 Norris Yard. Our sincere condolences to the family. 🙏

Don Sharpe - December 13, 2022 at 11:14 AM