



Douglas Garold Erickson

May 19, 1950 - December 30, 2022

Major Douglas Garold Erickson, 72, of Tyler, TX, peacefully passed away on Friday, December 30, 2022, surrounded by loving family. Doug was born to Garold (Gary) Erickson and Laura Streif Erickson on May 19, 1950, in Shell Lake, WI. He grew up in Rochester, MN and enlisted for military service in the Navy as a 19-year-old. Doug started as a hospital corpsman in the US Navy and served as a Vietnam combat medic until December 1972. He then joined the US Air Force in July 1980 and started at Pease AFB, NH. Doug went on as a staff anesthetist at Tinker AFB, OK, Kirtland AFB, NM, and Beale AFB, CA. Doug served overseas tours in Desert Storm/Desert Shield at Ramstein AB, Germany (1990) and Operation Provide Comfort at Incirlik AB, Turkey (1992-1995) with his family by his side. Major Erickson retired from the military at Wright Patterson AFB, OH, after 20 years of combined enlisted and officer service. He was a strong patriot and proud veteran who lived a life of service.

Doug was trained as an anesthetist at the Mayo Clinic School of Health-Related Sciences (CRNA residency program) in Rochester and, through his military service, received a Bachelor of Science in Nursing, graduating summa cum laude from The University of New Mexico in Albuquerque in May 1988.

After his military retirement, Doug worked as an anesthetist at Scott and White Hospital and Olin Teague Veterans Hospital, both in Temple, TX, moving to Tyler, TX, in April 2003. After that, he worked at East Texas Medical Center for

three years. Then, in 2006, Doug joined the anesthesia team at Trinity Mother Frances Hospital, working as an anesthesiologist until retiring in May 2015. He mentored many young anesthesiologists and actively recruited candidates for his profession. Doug always encouraged hard work and dedication to further one's education and knowledge.

A generous soul, and caring Christian, Doug had a great sense of humor and enjoyed spending time with his family. He loved his daughters very much and taught them to be strong, smart, independent women. His girls will never forget his constant support, telling the silliest jokes and giving the warmest bear hugs. Doug was very proud of his four special grandchildren, who fondly called him Pappy and Pop Pop. He was a car enthusiast, golfer, Sci-Fi lover, Dallas Stars fan and loved watching hockey! Doug had a keen artist's eye and impeccable taste. In addition, he was known for performing random acts of kindness and generous donations to those in need. He was blessed to marry his soulmate and the love of his life Katherine on June 4, 2005, and never missed a chance to tell people how much he loved his wife. Doug and Katherine enjoyed every second of their 17 years together. The Ericksons are members of the First Presbyterian Church of Tyler.

Doug is survived by his wife Katherine; his daughters: Jodie Erickson Gollings (husband, Jim) of Columbus, OH, Jessie Erickson Folmar (husband, Rob) of Mason, OH, and Taylor Jester (husband, Justin); his grandchildren: Ronan and Leo Gollings, Phoebe Folmar and Harper Anne Jester; his sisters: Susan St. George (husband, Don) of Oronoco, MN, Lori Anderson (husband, Mark) of Onalaska, WI and Carol King of Plainview, MN; and his parents, Garold (Gary) and Laura Erickson, preceded him in death.

The family would like to thank God for His grace, strength and mercy, the support of their friends and extended family, and those who knew and loved Doug.

A memorial service will be held at 10:30 AM on Saturday, January 28, 2023, in the chapel at First Presbyterian Church of Tyler, located at 230 W. Rusk St., Tyler, TX 75701. A reception will follow in the Hill Room of the church.

Memorial donations in Major Douglas G. Erickson's honor may be made to the Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research (MFMER) at <https://philanthropy.mayoclinic.org/>.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JAN 28. 10:30 AM (CT)

First Presbyterian Church
230 Rusk St.
Tyler, TX 75701

Reception will follow in the Hill Room of the church.

Tribute Wall



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Douglas Garold Erickson.



January 26, 2023 at 04:09 PM



“ We first met in seventh grade - junior high school. One of my favorite memories was going on vacation with his family at age 15, to Hackensack, Minnesota and Shell Lake, Wisconsin. After getting permission from Doug's parents, we were allowed to take the boat out on the lake by ourselves. That was a blast!

We both loved motorcycles. We went from small ones to almost matching Ducati bikes. By the time we were in Mayo High school, Doug had a '58 Chevy Impala and I had a '59 Ford Galaxy. While attending Mayo High School, we both loved art class. Doug was especially gifted on the pottery wheel.

We lost touch during college. When Doug enlisted, we could only see each other when he had enough leave to come home a couple times. Around 1975, to my surprise, while donating blood at the Mayo Clinic blood bank, it was Doug, as a new RN, drawing my blood! We had both gone into nursing, yet had not spoken in years. He said he was just working there while he waited to start Mayo Clinic anesthesia school. He encouraged me to apply also. The rest is history. It was such great advice. I will miss him until the end, when we meet again

Steve Jerabek - January 26, 2023 at 02:25 PM

JG

Thank you so much for sharing this story, Steve. My Dad cherished your lifelong friendship and spoke of you fondly through the years. 💕💕

Jodie Gollings - January 30, 2023 at 05:22 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Douglas Garold Erickson.*



January 26, 2023 at 11:29 AM



“ *Enduring Grace was purchased for the family of Douglas Garold Erickson.*



January 24, 2023 at 04:55 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Douglas Garold Erickson.*



January 12, 2023 at 09:01 AM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Douglas Garold Erickson.



January 03, 2023 at 10:26 AM



“ Katherine. You and your family remain in our prayers during this difficult time.

*Jeremy and Sukanya Batchelor
Youngstown, OH*

Jeremy Batchelor - January 02, 2023 at 08:53 PM



I'm so thankful for my YCSD Family! Thank you so much for your kindness and support. ❤️

Katherine Erickson - January 03, 2023 at 08:56 AM