



SMSgt (Ret Douglas Allen Wheeler

April 11, 1957 - July 4, 2024

Douglas “Doug” Allen Wheeler, aged 67, passed away surrounded by his loving family on July 4, 2024. Born on April 11, 1957, to the late Lawrence John Wheeler, Jr. and Mary Lou (Rolfe) Wheeler in Greenville, Ohio where he graduated from Greenville High School, Doug’s life was marked by dedication, compassion, and unwavering loyalty.

Doug retired from the Air Force after a distinguished career, where his intelligence and quick wit made him a respected leader and a trusted colleague. His determination and hard work were evident in every endeavor he undertook, and his humble nature made him approachable and down-to-earth. He attained the rank of Senior Master Sergeant and earned several awards and commendations.

Beyond his military service, Doug was a remarkable teacher and mentor. He cared deeply for his students, always going the extra mile to ensure their success. His colleagues and friends admired his steadfast commitment to excellence and genuine kindness. Doug’s unique ability to see the potential in everyone and his willingness to nurture that potential made him an invaluable guide and mentor. He served with EAI, SAIC (Science Applications International Corporation), and was a current instructor supervisor with the Department of Air Force with Emergency Management.

Doug's compassion extended far beyond his professional life. He was a devoted family man, cherishing every moment with his loved ones. His friends knew him as a loyal and supportive presence, always ready with a listening ear and a comforting word. His home was a haven of warmth and love, where laughter and love were plentiful.

Doug was united in marriage to Erica Jane Darmstatter on May 20, 1995, in Elk Flats, Idaho, who was a fellow Air Force servicemember. Doug and Erica were blessed with two daughters, Callie Sierra and Carlie Rianna, who joined Doug's son, Gregory and daughter, Nicole.

A man of deep faith, Doug's relationship with God was a cornerstone of his life. His spirituality guided his actions and interactions with grace and understanding. Doug's faith was a source of strength and inspiration for others and a testament to his compassionate spirit and unwavering trust in God's plan. He was a member of the Christ's Mission Church of St. Robert.

In his spare time, Doug enjoyed any kind of sports, but was especially a fan of the Dallas Cowboys and Ohio State football teams. He was a huge history buff (especially World War II history) and action film movie buff. Doug's biggest enjoyment came from having backyard BBQs where he would grill for his family and friends. He loved the peace of the outdoors, and you could find him sitting on the deck just enjoying God's creation.

Doug is survived by his loving wife: Erica Wheeler of the home; four children: Callie S. Wheeler and Carlie R. Wheeler, both of Waynesville, MO, Nicole R. Cope (Travis) and Gregory M. Wheeler, both from the State of Texas; three grandchildren: Jacob M. Wheeler, Dylan J. Cope, and Lukas Cope; sister: Kimberly A. Murray (Ben); several other relatives and friends who will miss him dearly. In addition to his parents, Doug was preceded in death by his older sister, Marta Wheeler. His legacy of kindness, intelligence, and humility

will continue to inspire all who knew him. Doug's family takes comfort in knowing that his spirit will live on through the many lives he touched and the countless acts of kindness he performed.

Douglas "Doug" Allen Wheeler leaves behind a legacy of love, dedication, and an indelible mark on the hearts of those who knew him. His memory will live on in the stories, lessons, and love he shared. His kindness, leadership, and unwavering faith will forever be a guiding light for those fortunate enough to know him.

Celebration of Life services were held at 11:00 a.m. Friday, July 12, 2024 in the Christ's Mission Church of St. Robert, Missouri with Pastor Jeff Brown officiating. Tood Williams and Henry Muse, close friends of Doug, recalled their wonderful memories of Doug. The songs "I Can Only Imagine" by Mercy Me, "Revelation Song" by Kari Jobe, "10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)" by Matt Redman, and "Blessings" by Laura Story were played. Burial with military honors followed in the Missouri Veterans Cemetery of Waynesville with military honors being provided by the United States Air Force. Services were under the care and direction of Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville / St. Robert.

Memorial contributions may be made in memory of SMSgt (Ret) Doug Wheeler and may be left at Memorial Chapels and Crematory or at Christ's Mission Church.

Cemetery Details

Missouri Veterans Cemetery - Fort Leonard Wood

25350 Hwy H
Waynesville, MO 65583

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 12. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Christ's Mission
22535 Hwy Y
St. Robert, MO 65584

Funeral Service

JUL 12. 11:00 AM (CT)

Christ's Mission
22535 Hwy Y
St. Robert, MO 65584

Tribute Wall



“ *Memorial Chapels and Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of SMSgt (Ret Douglas Allen Wheeler*



Memorial Chapels and Crematory - July 12, 2024 at 01:18 PM

JH

Great tribute. RIP Doug 🇺🇸🇺🇸

Jeri Harwood - July 12, 2024 at 07:04 PM

TS

What a beautiful tribute.

Theresa Schroeder - July 12, 2024 at 08:46 PM

DE

What a beautiful tribute to a wonderful man! Erica I am so happy you found Doug and shared such an incredible love story! So proud that the two of you have 2 amazing daughters and raised them together in love. May God Bless you all 💕💕

deb - July 12, 2024 at 09:57 PM



“ *On behalf of our entire team, please accept our deepest sympathies. Our hearts go out to your family during this time of sorrow. -Kelly Busch*



Kelly Busch - July 16, 2024 at 09:02 AM

AB

“ My condolences to Erica and the girls. Doug was an amazing leader and a good man. I’m grateful for the time I served with his as my instructor supervisor and I’m eternally thankful for the lessons and mentoring he provided me during my time at FLW. I’m so sorry for your loss. I’m praying for you all during this trying time.



Ashley Bartlett - July 12, 2024 at 07:01 PM



“ 17 files added to the album Life Tributes



Memorial Chapels and Crematory - July 12, 2024 at 09:09 AM



“ 111 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Memorial Chapels and Crematory - July 10, 2024 at 05:04 PM

JH

“ *Joshua Hite lit a candle in memory of Douglas Wheeler*



Joshua Hite - July 10, 2024 at 03:32 PM

CB

“ *CSM(Ret)Harold&Brigitte Burleson lit a candle in memory of Douglas Wheeler*



CSM(Ret)Harold&Brigitte Burleson - July 09, 2024 at 09:57 AM

PG

“ *Pulaski County Camp Gideons lit a candle in memory of Douglas Wheeler*



Pulaski County Camp Gideons - July 09, 2024 at 09:56 AM