



Douglas Keith Morris

November 3, 1947 - July 22, 2023

Sussex - Douglas Keith Morris, age 75 passed away peacefully at home on Saturday, July 22, 2023 after a long illness. He was born and raised in Sussex, NJ. Born to the late John Morris, Jr. and Betty (Space) Morris on November 03, 1947, Douglas graduated Sussex High School and enlisted in the United States Marine Corps on March 25, 1966. He left for basic training to Parris Island, South Carolina on June 24, 1966. Douglas attended ITR at Camp Geiger, completed his MOS School before being shipped out to Vietnam, December 1966, 6 months after enlisting.

While in Vietnam, he served with the 2nd BN-11th Marines-1st Marine Division. The 2nd BN-11th Marines supported the 5th Marine Regiment. They served I Corps, which included the four northern most provinces of Vietnam which are Quang Tri, Thua Thien, Quang Nam, and Quang Tin. During 1967, he served in numerous operations and sweeps.

Upon his return to the States in January of 1968, Douglas was first sent to Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. By May of 1968, he was transferred to 8th & I Marine Barracks in Washington, DC. While stationed at 8th & I, he participated in President Nixon's first Inauguration, he participated in the funeral, escort and burial of Former President General Dwight D. Eisenhower, and he was part of the honor guard detachment who picked up Robert Kennedy's body at Union Station for its return to Washington, DC.

Douglas was promoted to the rank of Sergeant before receiving an Honorable Discharge. While in the service, he was awarded the National Defense

Service Medal, Vietnamese Service Medal with 2 stars, Vietnamese Campaign Medal, with Device, Presidential Unit Citation with 2 stars, Combat Action Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal, and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry Unit Award.

While being stationed in Washington, DC., he married his high school sweetheart, Katrinka (Kathy) Aukema on October 09, 1969.

Upon leaving the Marine Corps, Douglas moved back to Sussex, bought a home, where he and his wife raised three children.

Throughout his career, he worked for John Morris, Jr. Trucking, NJ Zinc Mines, Westbrook Farms and Ryder Rendering in PA. He finished his career with the United Parcel Service (UPS) where he worked over 27 years as a Tractor Trailer Driver before retiring in 2010.

Douglas served on Sussex Boro Town Council. He was a member of the American Legion Post 213, the Marine Corps League, and the 1st Marine Division Association. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Beemerville, NJ, where he sang in the choir, and served as an Elder and Deacon. In his retirement, he was an organizer and supporter of the USMC Toys for Tots program where he proudly served for many years.

Douglas enjoyed so many things in life. He loved to talk to anyone who would listen. He had many stories of cherished childhood memories. The Sussex and Beemerville communities were very important to him. He loved to hunt, and hanging out, up in Beemerville, with the guys were some of his favorite pastimes. He learned a love for ice fishing at a very young age while spending time with his Uncle Sonny, a love that he wanted to pass on to his grandchildren. He enjoyed boating and would learn to sail, which was a life long goal. He also enjoyed hiking and long walks. At 65, he decided to go skydiving and jump out of a perfectly good plane, a bucket list item of his. But out of all the things he enjoyed, he loved his family and spending summers up at the lake with his grandchildren.

He was predeceased by his parents, John Morris, Jr. and Betty (Space) Morris; his sister, Betsy Hopper; and his Father and Mother in laws, John and

Wilma Aukema.

He leaves behind his beloved wife, Katrinka, of 54 years; his sisters, Vickie Dale and her husband, Jim and Julie Masker and her husband Ken; and his children, Jonathan Morris and his wife Sharon, Gretchen McDonald and her husband Rich, and Ingrid Langenbach and her husband Craig. He was Granddad to 9 grandchildren and 1 great-grandson and had many nieces and nephews, who all adored him and will miss him terribly.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. on Thursday, July 27, 2023 at the Beemerville First Presbyterian Church, 226 CR-519, Sussex, NJ. Interment will immediately follow at Beemerville Cemetery. Friends may pay their respects to the family on Wednesday from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Pinkel Funeral Home, 31 Bank Street (Route 23), Sussex, NJ with American Legion services at 7 p.m.. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Douglas Morris' memory to the American Legion Post 213, P.O. Box 447, Sussex, NJ 07461, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105, or to Wounded Warrior Project, P.O. Box 758516, Topeka, Kansas 66675-8516. Online condolences may be offered to the family on www.pinkelfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

Beemerville Cemetery

Route 519
Wantage, NJ 07461

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 26. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Pinkel Funeral Home, Inc.
31 Bank Street (Route 23)
Sussex, NJ 07461
(973) 875-3272
alexis@pinkelfuneralhome.com
<https://www.pinkelfuneralhome.com/>

American Legion Services

JUL 26. 7:00 PM (ET)

Pinkel Funeral Home, Inc.
31 Bank Street (Route 23)
Sussex, NJ 07461
(973) 875-3272
alexis@pinkelfuneralhome.com
<https://www.pinkelfuneralhome.com/>

Service

JUL 27. 10:00 AM (ET)

Beemerville Presbyterian Church
226 Route 519
Wantage, NJ 07461

Tribute Wall

GB

“ *What an honor it has been to know Mr. Morris. His great love for the Lord, our beautiful country, and his amazing family was always so obvious. A very wise person once told me "Always teach Christ..but only use words when necessary." I didn't fully understand it until these past months..*

Thank you Mr. Morris, you have been a beautiful clarification of that message. I understand it very well now. I am assured that you have now been welcomed into paradise and rest peacefully in the arms of the Lord. Never forgetting your lessons we hope to join you someday. "Job well done Douglas.." Till we meet again!

Love, Gerri Boos

Gerri Boos - July 31, 2023 at 08:48 AM



“ *Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Douglas Keith Morris.*



July 26, 2023 at 03:29 PM

SC

“ *Rest easy Marine we have the watch from here. You were truly one of the backbone members of Detachment 747. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and the family.*

*Semper Fidelis,
Sal Cenicacelaya
Past Commandant MCL Det 747*

Sal Cenicacelaya - July 26, 2023 at 01:42 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Douglas Keith Morris.



July 26, 2023 at 09:12 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Douglas Keith Morris.

July 26, 2023 at 08:22 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Douglas Keith Morris.



July 25, 2023 at 06:36 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Douglas Keith Morris.



July 25, 2023 at 05:58 PM

MA

“My sincere condolences to the Morris family. “Wherever a beautiful soul has been, there is a trail of beautiful memories. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.”

Marguerite - July 25, 2023 at 09:07 AM

CW

“Christine W. purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Douglas Keith Morris.



Christine W. - July 25, 2023 at 08:01 AM

CW

“Christine W. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Douglas Keith Morris.

Christine W. - July 25, 2023 at 08:01 AM

CC

“Doug will be missed by everyone. He was always there for everyone. He had a great sense of humor. When he laughed, his whole face lit up. A good Christian, he was active in his church. To Doug’s family I pray that you feel God’s love and strength during this time. Well done good and faithful servant



Cindy DePue Cole - July 25, 2023 at 03:39 AM

BW

“ My prayers are with the family during this sad time. He was a good man with a strong faith.

Betty L Willis - July 24, 2023 at 03:58 PM

BY

“ Doug was a good Christian man and American hero. I am very thankful to have known him and to worship with him at Beemerville Church. My condolences to his family. Blessings to you. God has got him in his arms.

Barry G Young - July 24, 2023 at 01:36 PM

LH

“ Our sincere condolences to the entire Morris Family. Doug was our favorite neighbor here on Fourth Street. We loved chatting him up about almost anything. Always pleasant and always with a smile -
The Hurd Family

Lisa Hurd - July 24, 2023 at 01:07 PM

BP

“ I am proud to have been a high school mate with this fine gentleman. He has lived a full life and know that he put everyone else's well-being and happiness before his own. Rest in eternal peace Doug. You were a remarkable man. Bill Pinnell SHS Class of '66.

Bill Pinnell - July 24, 2023 at 11:38 AM



“ *Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Douglas Keith Morris.*



July 24, 2023 at 11:19 AM



“ *My sincere condolences to the family.*

Gregory P. Klaus - July 24, 2023 at 10:36 AM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Douglas Keith Morris.*



July 24, 2023 at 07:59 AM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Douglas Keith Morris.*

July 24, 2023 at 07:59 AM



“ *Doug was a gentleman, a true American patriot, a hard worker, honest, Christian and a great family man. Loved by all. Semper Fi, Doug! Love Irish & Linda.*

Linda Dunn - July 23, 2023 at 04:00 PM