



Douglas DuWayne Johnson

July 24, 1935 - September 6, 2024

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Douglas DuWayne Johnson passed away on September 6, 2024 at the age of 89.

He is remembered by dear sister, Marlene, Children Jeff (Wendy), Jeanne (Dave), Julie (Mark) and daughter-in law Sarah.

Grandchildren, great-grandchildren and other extended family members.

He is preceded in death by devoted wife, Helen and beloved son, Joel.

Doug was raised on a farm near Alexandria by parents Eskil and Laurette along with his sister and friend, Marlene.

His elementary education occurred at country school. For two of the years, Doug was the only child in his grade. And on occasion, his Aunt was his teacher (A

situation that he did not recommend.) After high school graduation, Doug served in the army. His tour of duty included a posting in Germany. Later he attended

vocational and technical school..

Doug was employed for many years as a parts manager for a dealer of John Deere road construction equipment. He finished his working years as an employee of The City of Bloomington in the street maintenance division.

Doug and Helen met on a blind date having been set up by friends. The couple married in April of 1960. They moved into their Bloomington home in 1965 and raised "The 4 J's" there.

Helen and Doug enjoyed traveling and loved The Minnesota State Fair. Participating in both service ministries and social gatherings the two were active members of Hillside Church for over 50 years. Many miles were put on Doug's Ford pick-up as he and Helen faithfully supported their 10 grandchildren by attending sporting events and artistic activities.

The only time that Doug liked to be sitting in a chair was at 10:00 am to watch The Price is Right. He was happiest being up and about, working on "something" in the yard. He restored vintage tractors in his garage. Some of these were featured in a calendar for Oliver enthusiasts.

The "J's" are thankful for many acts of love and sacrifice given to them by their Dad, Doug. Among them teaching us to ride a bike, patiently helping us with our multiplication flashcards in third grade. And for surprising us with the puppy he intended for us never to have because "The city is no place for a dog". We will always remember the road trips he planned and did the driving for at a time when there was no map quest, no cell phones, no handheld gaming devices or personal music. Just Helen and the coffee

thermos, an atlas, 4 kids in a van,
an am radio and the license plate game.

The last two years were especially challenging for Doug as he faced loss and decline. We so appreciate the friends and family who continued to reach out to him with calls, visits and written notes. It meant a great deal to him.

Special thanks to the kind residents and the caring staff (in all departments) at Hayden Grove. You helped Doug to feel connected at a time he felt adrift.

Thanks also to the staffs of Bluestone Physician Service, Brookdale Home Health and Interim Hospice.

Tribute Wall

EA

“ To the family of Doug Johnson- I was so sorry to hear of Doug's passing. We have been good friends since meeting in Sunday School at Lake Chippewa Covenant church when we were 6 years old.

Our dads sang in a quartet together and we enjoyed seeing each other when they would practice.

We played trombone in Alexandria High School band and had other classes together.

I'm sure you miss him as do I. We will continue to pray that the Lord will comfort and sustain you. My wife Donna (Marlene's friend), sends her condolences as well. Sincerely, Elwood Anderson

Elwood Anderson - November 16, 2024 at 12:03 AM

DC

“ The best family and neighbor a person could have ever hoped for. We lived a few doors down from Doug, Helen and the kids and the entire family would help anyone needing it at the drop of a hat. Quiet and unassuming they would never impose but always attended events involving the neighborhood. Doug would pitch in to help clear downed trees from storms, repair equipment that was malfunctioning, find parts for any John Deere implement that we may have [or even a competitor's product] and see that it was properly installed. He raised his family with the same work ethic that he demonstrated after years of work for John Deere and subsequently for the city of Bloomington utilizing his knowledge and skill set to repair and restore many tractors and machines in his garage. He and LeRoy would talk for hours on end about the best way to do something and even though it would take some time they would always complete the task 'eventually'. Most everything worked just fine when they were finished. Even the tractors looked brand new after a few coats of paint and restored parts that were missing or in need of replacement. I cannot recall a time when Doug raised his voice or seemed agitated with a situation. He and Helen both had a calm demeanor and a way of spreading it to those around them that was a joy to watch and experience as a neighbor. It has been a couple of years since they moved to their new home, and I still look at his driveway thinking about all the times seeing them back out and drive away. Rest in Peace my friend,
Denny and Marti Clark

Denny and Marti Clark - September 23, 2024 at 11:28 AM