



Douglass L Kemp

January 29, 1948 - August 5, 2016

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On January 29, 1948, Douglass “Doug” Kemp experienced the sunrise of life and was born as an only child to his father (the late) Maryland D. Kemp, and mother, (the late) Mary Celeste Kemp.

Douglass’ parents moved to England and he attended elementary school in Bristol, England. Once his father finished his studies in England, they returned to Washington, DC. Douglass attended and graduated from Eastern High School where he lettered in varsity basketball. He loved basketball, and his long, and lanky frame served him well on the court. His passion for basketball never died and he played recreationally whenever he could.

Douglass attended Hampton Institute and transferred to Johnson C. Smith University, where he graduated in 1972 with his Bachelor of Science Degree. Upon graduation, he returned to Washington, and embarked on his professional career.

Douglass married his sweetheart, Cassandra E. Thomas, and they were blessed with a son, Brandon, of whom he was very proud. As a family they joined North Eastern Presbyterian Church and celebrated the Lord.

Douglass started his professional career working for Drug Fair in Marlow Heights, Maryland. He met his future wife, Cassandra, while working there. Douglass enjoyed working in retail and was very successful at it, but felt very limited and made a major career change. He decided to quit his job, and in

1983 he followed his heart and chose the path of freedom by working for the Gold Line/Gray Line Motor Coach Company as a motor coach operator. He loved that job and being on the open road. He drove locally, and studied the history of DC so that he could talk to his passengers while driving guided tours in DC. His passengers loved him and he received numerous requests for guided tours. He built a reputation for being extremely professional and took great pride representing himself and his company well. He worked as a motor coach operator until his health failed him in 2008.

Douglass had a number of passions, including the Washington Redskins football team. He also loved cars, especially his 1966 Camaro and his Harley Davidson 2200 Super Glide, both of which he put on the road whenever the spirit moved him. He had a passion for gadgets of all types, especially “state of the art” stereo equipment that allowed him to enjoy his favorite jazz and R&B artists. Music could move him to dance in that signature Douglass Kemp way. Douglass was also an animal lover. He especially loved dogs.

In 2008, Douglass began to experience deteriorating health and could no longer pursue his passions. Although his health declined, his spirit remained strong, and on August 5, 2016 he heeded God’s call to return home.

He leaves to mourn: one son, Brandon M. Kemp; a daughter-in-law, Ayesha E. Kemp, all of Brandywine, Maryland; one Uncle, Stanley Kemp of New York; two aunts, Vivian Truxon of Waldorf, Maryland and Selena Handy of Denton, Maryland; cousins Shelia Truxon, William “Buddy” Truxon, Cory Truxon, Ira Kemp, Calvin Kemp, Pierson “Sonny” Kemp, Jr., Versteal Kemp, Beverly Kemp Parker; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Visitation will be held on (Friday) August 19, 2016 at Johnson & Jenkins Funeral Home (Chapel) 716 Kennedy St, NW, Washington, DC 20011 at 10 am, Service from 11 am.

Interment will follow to Ft. Lincoln Cemetery 3401 Bladensburg Rd,

Brentwood, MD 20722.

Arrangements by Johnson and Jenkins Funeral Home, Inc.

Cemetery Details

Fort Lincoln Cemetery

3401 Bladensburg Rd
Brentwood, MD 20722
(301) 864-5090

Previous Events

Service

AUG 12. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Johnson & Jenkins Funeral Home
716 Kennedy Street, NW
Washington, DC 20011
(202) 882-8800
jjfh@aol.com
<https://JohnsonandJenkinsFH.com>

Visitation

AUG 19. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

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Tribute Wall

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“ My daughter, Elizabeth, and I knew Doug as a DC tour guide, coach driver, but most of all as a friend to school kids and teachers. We traveled to DC with Arkansas middle school tour groups from 1993-2008. Doug had so much knowledge to share, but he had empathy for kids as well. On our first trip, we traveled to DC via Philadelphia. Three groups "ran the Rocky Steps" that day. A little girl fell when she got almost to the top, and Doug left the other drivers and ran all the way up (with those long legs), then carried her all the way back down to the coach. On another trip, we saw his excitement in sharing Civil War history and engaging kids' learning, when we asked him if a "Lincoln" was buried in Arlington Cemetery. He led us on an impromptu "back way" hike to see Robert Lincoln's grave. Most of all, we always observed him bowing his head and offering thanks to his Heavenly Father before he dined with kids and teachers.

Brandon and Family, we are so very sorry for the loss of your dad. He loved and talked about you all of the time. We also remember you going with us on the coach several times. The world has lost a man of great integrity. We are praying for your comfort in the days ahead.

"The LORD knows those who are His...." 2 Timothy 2:19 ESV

*Helen Bargar and Elizabeth Bargar McCall
Greenbrier, AR*

Helen Bargar - August 17, 2016 at 10:52 PM

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“*Douglas was a first class gentleman and one of the best sight seeing drivers Gold Line ever had. I knew him personally and could not have worked with a a better employee or finer human being. One of a kind. Our thoughts are with you and your family.*

*Ed Steltz
Vice President
Martz Gold Line.*

Ed Steltz - August 17, 2016 at 01:35 PM