



Douglas Esmond Rickles

August 14, 2016

Obituary of Douglas Rickles

Douglas E. Rickles passed away on August 14, 2016. Douglas and his parents, Mary and Jim Rickles, moved from Ohio to Bushnell, Florida in the early 1950's where his father served as mayor and his mother was a fifth grade school teacher. Douglas' love for Sumter County began during that time and grew each year of his life. He graduated from Bushnell High School and earned a B.S. in Business Administration from Florida State University. He served in the Army and then started his career with Lockheed/Martin in Orlando. During this time Douglas married his high school sweetheart, Patricia West, and recently they celebrated 56 years together. They were blessed with two children, Stacey and Doug, and three grandchildren, Hannah, Will and Hailey. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church.

After making a career change to the textile division of Monsanto Corporation in 1966, he ascended the corporate ladder in management forecasting working in Pensacola, Greenville SC, New York City and Atlanta. In 1985 Douglas and Patty returned to Bushnell and he began a second career as a probation and parole officer with the State of Florida. Because of this change, he was able to establish a small cattle ranch which was one of his greatest joys. His love for his family, his friends, his ranch and it's abundant wildlife made his home his personal heaven on earth.

In Lieu Of

In lieu of flowers the family requests that those who wish to honor Douglas with a memorial gift to consider a donation to the Florida United Methodist Children's Home, 51 Children's Way, Enterprise, FL 32725 or to the Lane Purcell Hospice House, 2452 CR 526E, Sumterville, FL 33585.

Visitation and Service

On Thursday, August 18, 2016, there will be a time of visitation from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and a service at 11:00 a.m. at First United Methodist Church, Bushnell, with Rev. Theresa Montgomery-Vokey officiating. Interment will follow at Evergreen Cemetery in Bushnell, Florida.

Tribute Wall

JW

“ It was our privilege to be classmates of Douglas at BHS and continue to touch base again through the years. Jimmy and I will be praying for all of your family! With our love,

Jimmy and Geneva Williams - August 24, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ First let me say to the family am very sorry for your loss. Douglas and I have not been in contact with each other since Bushnell high school. We both made our separate ways. I can only say that as it is my hope that his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren will grow up to be a person is Douglas Rickles. Make God bless him and his family. Donald L. Bassett

Donnie Bassett - August 22, 2016 at 12:00 AM

LK

“ I am sorry for your loss. I really liked Doug and considered him a friend. I always enjoyed our conversations. He will surely be missed. Sincerely, Lee

Lee Krauss - August 19, 2016 at 12:00 AM

GB

“ Sorry old friend we weren't there for a final goodbye, you were a cherished friend and we will miss you, you fought a galant fight now just rest in peace, you will always be in our hearts, good bye old friend

George and Bonnie Benningfield - August 18, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ *Douglas Esmond Rickles*

August 17, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ *Patty, we are so sorry for your loss, we loved Doug, you are in our thoughts and prayers...*

Pam and Conrad Porter - August 16, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ *You all are in our prayers...God bless you.*

Rick Shirley - August 16, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ *So sorry, he was a good man. Prayers and God bless you!*

Rick Shirley - August 16, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ *I am so sorry to hear of the loss of Douglas, but I do know that he has suffered a lot of late, and he is no longer in any pain. I hope the love of family and friends expressed will ease your grief, and happy memories will soon replace your sorrow. Please let me know if there is anything I can do.*

Jack and Susan Noell - August 16, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ *So sorry to hear of your loss. Douglas was a great listener and caring person. He will be missed by all who knew him. Prayers and blessings to the family.*

Peggy Boyatt - August 15, 2016 at 12:00 AM