



## Douglas Michael Justinger

October 11, 1967 - February 27, 2024

Douglas Michael Justinger, 56, of Defiance, Ohio passed away unexpectedly on February 27, 2024. He was born in Defiance on October 11, 1967, to the late James and C. Anne (Losh) Justinger.

Doug was a 1986 graduate of Tinora High School and proudly served his country in the US Army. He was a member of the Defiance AMVETS and the Eagles. Doug was also a member of St. Michael's Catholic Church. He enjoyed water skiing, boating, fishing on the river, playing cards, and was an avid reader. Doug loved spending time with his family, telling stories, jokes, grilling out, and enjoying music with them.

He is survived by his daughter, Suzanne Justinger; sister, Connie (John) Higbea; former spouse, Andrea Justinger; niece, Cassandra (Gary) Sheriff; nephews, Craig (Anna) Higbea, and Carl James (Samantha) Higbea; and many aunts, uncles, and cousins. Doug was preceded in death by his parents.

Friends and family will be received at the Rodenberger-Gray Funeral Home, Napoleon, on Monday, March 11, 2024, from 2:00 PM until 8:00 PM with a Rosary Service at 7:00 PM. Funeral Mass will be celebrated at St. Michael's Catholic Church on Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at 11:00 AM with an hour of visitation prior to services. A private interment will take place at Marysdale Immaculate Conception Catholic Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be

made to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Online condolences and messages may be shared with the family at [rodenbergergray.com](http://rodenbergergray.com).

# Previous Events

## Public Viewing

MAR 11. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Rodenberger Funeral Home - Napoleon  
1010 Westmoreland Avenue  
Napoleon, OH 43545

## Rosary Service

MAR 11. 7:00 PM (ET)

Rodenberger Funeral Home - Napoleon  
1010 Westmoreland Avenue  
Napoleon, OH 43545

## Public Viewing

MAR 12. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Michael's Ridge Catholic Church  
05480 Moser Road  
Defiance, OH 43551

## Mass

MAR 12. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Michael's Ridge Catholic Church  
05480 Moser Road  
Defiance, OH 43551

# Tribute Wall

KE

“ *My deepest condolences... we will miss you Doug but your spirit will live on within us-*

*Love, your Army brothers ...*

Keith - March 11, 2024 at 09:32 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Rodenberger Funeral Home - March 11, 2024 at 12:15 PM

KK

*Wow, not a dry eye... we loved you Doug !  
Your Army friends!*

keith KRZEMINSKI - March 11, 2024 at 06:44 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of  
Douglas Michael Justinger.*



March 10, 2024 at 10:22 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Douglas Michael Justinger.



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March 09, 2024 at 10:21 AM



“ Love - Steve Kim Jacob Miriam Justinger planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Douglas Michael Justinger.

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**Love - Steve Kim Jacob Miriam Justinger** - March 09, 2024 at 10:21 AM



“ Doug was my brother from another mother. I know this is just a saying, but Doug was really a brother to me. I loved the guy. He was this big, goofy guy who could move any big thing we needed help with without breaking out into a sweat. Rich always would say, "We will call mountain of a man Doug...He can help me." And that is who Doug was. He would drop what he was doing to lend a hand. If you were down, he would take his finger to his lips and do that bababa thing that he thought was do funny. How could you not feel better when he did that! If that wasn't enough, he would put his thumb to his nose and to the naner naner naner thing....No idea how to put these sounds into words, but I am sure you know what I am talking about, right Suzi and Connie? So as we get closer to saying our last farewells, I just want to say how blessed I am to have had this man in my life. My family is so honored to be a part of his final journey. Love to you all. Mary, Rich, and family



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**Mary Rose** - March 07, 2024 at 11:03 AM

“ From the fields, forests, plains of Africa and war-torn Europe, to the frozen tundra of Korea, to the jungles of Southeast Asia, from the deserts of Kuwait and Iraq to the mountains of Afghanistan, brave patriots have protected our nation’s ideals, rescued millions from tyranny, and helped spread freedom around the globe. America’s veterans answered the call when asked to protect our nation from some of the most brutal oppression the world has ever known. Military service demands a special kind of sacrifice. The places where you are sent to live and serve bring risk every day. From the time you put on that uniform for the first time, the interests of the nation move to the forefront and define your life. Those duties are shared by family members who make many sacrifices of their own, sometimes bearing the burden of losing a loved one. Service brings rewards as well. There is pride in developing one’s own character, serving a cause far greater than self-interest. Every person who wears America’s uniform is part of a long, unbroken line of achievement and honor. No single military power in history has done greater good, shown greater courage, liberated more people or upheld higher standards of decency and valor than the Armed Forces of the United States of America. That is a legacy to be proud of and those who contributed to it must never be taken for granted. To honor our veterans, we must keep the promises we have made to them. We must care for those who have been injured in the service of our country. We must honor and remember those who have died. And we must remember those whose fate is still undetermined. We fly the Prisoner of War flag on Veterans Day for a reason, to show that this nation will not relent until we have accounted for every one of our missing Americans. Thank you for your service. Thank you for all that you have sacrificed for this great nation. Thank you for being the backbone of America.

*Brigadier General (Retired) Mark W. Lee, United States Army*

AM

“ I worked with Doug at Sabre and was told he was knowledgeable when it came to what he did best, an inspector! He could achieve all tasks and knew them like he was reading from the books! He was one I went to anytime I needed to know how to or what to do when I came to a problem that I wasn't sure about. Sabre sure lost a very wise guy that knew alot about his job an was great at helping the "newbees". He absolutely loved to share stories of his life an loved his family! He was a proud dad of his daughter! What a great and helpful guy he was, missed by many.

Amy - March 06, 2024 at 06:52 PM

TD

“ Timothy D. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Douglas Michael Justinger.

Timothy D. - March 03, 2024 at 06:41 AM



“ Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Douglas Michael Justinger.



March 01, 2024 at 01:15 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Douglas Michael Justinger.



March 01, 2024 at 08:18 AM

MB

“ Mary and Betty planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Douglas Michael Justinger.

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**Mary and Betty** - March 01, 2024 at 08:18 AM

CC

“ Doug was the best cheerleader anyone could ask for. He gave the best hugs and was always trying to make you smile. He was so protective of those he loved. I will never forget him and how he empowered me to be who I am today. I am going to miss his smiles, laughs, and fun times at the river. I love you, Doug. Hubba Hubba.

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**Chelsea Campbell** - February 29, 2024 at 08:41 PM

JW

“ Always a big smile and a “howdy” from the big guy. We had many talks and even a round of fishing together. RIP you will always be in my thoughts.

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**Jake Weible** - February 29, 2024 at 06:53 PM

RB

“ I could share so many things about Doug but the best memories revolve around his humor, and kindness. he made being the only woman fab/welder at Sabre very interesting. I never knew if his spectacular sarcasm was going to be the highlight of all of word day, or if his cheesy jokes were going to be what did us all in. I didn't know what to think of Doug when I first met him but I soon became fast work buddies with him. He knew exactly how to get a person going and he knew when you needed a shoulder. His best quality, no joke intended, was being a strait shooter with no harm intended to the person on the receiving end. My heart breaks for all his family and friends. Doug will be greatly missed!

Sincere Condolences  
Rachel Buell

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**Rachel Buell** - February 29, 2024 at 11:54 AM

MH

“ I worked with Doug and enjoyed his trips up to the office. We always chatted for a bit and shared a new joke or two. I will miss him so much.

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**Melanie Hinkle** - February 28, 2024 at 07:26 PM

TW

He was my best friend at Tinora. He would give pep talks to me at my job. He knew I am autistic and felt bad of the bullying I suffered. He was a great buddy

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**Todd D Walker** - February 29, 2024 at 10:18 AM

KK

We loved you like a brother Doug , your spirit will live on in us-  
Your Army brothers

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**keith KRZEMINSKI** - March 11, 2024 at 06:46 PM