



Doug Johnson

April 26, 1945 - August 9, 2024

Douglas Heritage Johnson, 79, Hoyt, Kansas, passed away Friday, August 9, 2024.

Doug was born April 26, 1945, to Roy H. and Emilie Langsdorf Johnson in Topeka. He graduated from Topeka High School in 1963 and from Washburn University in 1967.

Doug married Karen Batey on March 22, 1974, and they enjoyed 50 years of love, laughter, family, traveling, and ribbing each other.

His first job after his college graduation was at First National Bank before landing his much-loved career with the Information Technology Department at Blue Cross/Blue Shield, where he retired with almost 40 years of service. He served as a USD 337 School Board member for eleven years, from 1985 to 1996. He was a proud member of the Washburn University Alumni Association.

Doug loved traveling, reading, working crossword puzzles, KU basketball, WU athletics, a well-made craft beer, martinis before dinner, wine with dinner, and "original pesto with any extra pine nuts you can find back there to throw on" (his words). He enjoyed listening to many different genres of music. He would sing along with all but Andrea Bocelli and Celine Dion (and I imagine we know

why!)

As his sister, Ann, said, "He was always there for his family." He was an incredible role model to his children and grandchildren, always staying calm, steady, dependable, and offering good advice. He rarely missed a sporting event of his two children or five grandchildren, and that was a great many hours spent sitting on bleachers! Through freezing weather, rain, scorching hot temperatures, tornado warnings, winning, losing, you name it - he loved every minute spent watching and being with them.

He was funny, smart, kind, and absolutely loved, and will be forever in our hearts.

Doug was preceded in death by his parents; Roy and Emilie Johnson; brother-in-law, Bobby M. Thompson; nephew, Robert William Thompson; and grand-nephew, Ryan McCray Thompson.

He is survived by his wife, Karen; children, Chris Johnson and Amanda (Jared) Barta; grandchildren, Brennan Johnson, Grady Johnson, Chantz Barta, Avery Barta, Trevi Barta; sister, Ann Ubert (Gary); sister-in-law, Suzanne Thompson; niece, Sara Haldeman Smith (Clint); nephew, Danny Ubert (Jaclyn); nephew, Greg Thompson (Pam); grand-nephews, Mitchell Thompson, Nathan Thompson, Carter Smith; grand-nieces, Summitt Ubert, Angelia Ubert, Chiara Ubert, Bellina Ubert; and many wonderful friends.

His family will greet friends from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, August 24th, followed by a Celebration of Life beginning at 1 p.m. The family encourages everyone to bring their favorite stories to share at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka, KS, 66614.

Memorial contributions may be made to Helping Hands Humane Society and

sent in care of the funeral home.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG **24**. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home
2801 SW Urish Road
Topeka, KS 66614
(785) 272-7888
info@kevinbrennanfamily.com

Celebration of Life

AUG **24**. 1:00 PM (CT)

Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home
2801 SW Urish Road
Topeka, KS 66614
(785) 272-7888
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Tribute Wall



“ I was unable to attend Doug's memorial services, which I truly regret. Doug was a good guy, worked for and with me for the 33 years that I worked with BCBS. We didn't always agree, but we always had open and candid discussions, but at the end of the day we could always go out and have a beer and I always felt like we were still friends. I truly miss seeing and talking with my friends from BCBS. God bless them all.

Gerald Weigel - September 02, 2024 at 08:08 PM

HD

“ My memories of Doug always bring a smile to my face. He was a special person, a special husband, a special father, a special grandfather, a special friend and a special worker. He cherished the people he loved. I admired his calm demeanor even under the greatest pressure.

He loved good food and always a pint of good craft beer, especially Blind Tiger's Prairie Dog Brown Ale. I remember a trip we took to Chicago where we had fun 24X7. We landed at Uno's Pizzeria one evening and Doug fell in love with the place. Of course, by the end of the trip he arranged for both of us to take home a frozen deep dish Chicago pizza.

He was my KU buddy from about 1986. What an avid fan! Together, we watched our first KU national championship game in 1988 when they beat OU. I never saw Doug so animated and ecstatic; quite uncharacteristic but so great to witness.

Going back in time when Doug left Blue Cross, I was devastated but he was a man of great principle. He landed a great job with a company in Florida. I was very happy that he did not relocate but worked from home. Eventually I recruited him to return to Blue Cross. What a difference he made on my team. He was smart, dedicated, technically savvy, and could mentor the junior techies in a calm way that engendered great respect from everyone around him. And for that, I will always be grateful.

To Karen, Chris, Mandy and family, thank you for sharing Doug with us. Nina and I will miss him immensely. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. May loving memories of an incredible husband, father, grandfather and brother bring you comfort during this time of immense grief.

May his soul Rest in Peace

HENRY DARIES - August 23, 2024 at 11:22 AM

MK

Very nicely written Henry! ❤️

Mary Komarek - August 23, 2024 at 01:00 PM

KF

“ *Kay DeVita and family purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Doug Johnson.*



Kay DeVita and family - August 17, 2024 at 12:48 AM

KF

“ *Kay DeVita and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Doug Johnson.*

Kay DeVita and family - August 17, 2024 at 12:48 AM

MB

“ *Doug was a wonderful husband, father, grandfather and friend. We will miss his infectious laugh and beautiful smile. He will not go away; he will walk beside us in our hearts and memories. Our most heartfelt condolences.*
Tom and Mary Beth Barta

Mary Beth Barta - August 16, 2024 at 11:51 AM

LC

“ We are deeply saddened by the news of Doug's passing. He was a fantastic person. We feel privileged to have known him. May you find comfort in the outpouring of love surrounding you, and the cherished memories.

Our heartfelt sympathy and love for the entire family. Chance and Laura Cox

Laura L Cox - August 16, 2024 at 09:14 AM

ET

“ *Evergy Supply Chain Team purchased the Dreams From the Heart Bouquet for the family of Doug Johnson.*



Evergy Supply Chain Team - August 16, 2024 at 08:52 AM

GB

“ *Dear Karen and Family:*

Ed and I have many fond memories of "Sadie" and "Doorite" :) We had many adventures and good fellowship before life took all of us in different directions. Our fond memories of each other is what sustains friendship many years later. We are thinking of you at this time.

*Blessings,
Ed Carpenter and Ginger Barr*

Ginger Barr - August 15, 2024 at 06:33 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Doug Johnson.



August 15, 2024 at 03:07 PM



“ Troy Schuster & Capital Investment Manag planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Doug Johnson.

Troy Schuster & Capital Investment Manag - August 15, 2024 at 03:07 PM



“ Wishing you my sincere condolences for the loss of your dad. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. Losing a parent is heartbreaking, and you have my most heartfelt sympathies during this time. - Angie Meyer

Angela Meyer - August 15, 2024 at 11:06 AM



“ Mandy and family, I am so sorry for your enormous loss. I am praying that your beautiful memories with him help you as you mourn your Dad. Keeping you all in my thoughts and prayers. Pam Ketter

Pam Ketter - August 15, 2024 at 11:05 AM

TL

“ I was deeply saddened to hear about the passing of your dad. I hope you find comfort in the cherished memories you shared together and the love that surrounds you. Please accept my heartfelt condolences during this incredibly difficult time and know that my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. - Tiffany Lake

Tiffany Lake - August 15, 2024 at 10:39 AM

MB

“ I have never known another soul that exuded knowledge, wit, wisdom, and humor through their beautiful eyes like you. You showed me that a heartfelt laugh and smile are worth more than any words. I will forever think of your calm and peaceful demeanor when I need to find my own calm and peace. I was given the ultimate gift having you as my dad through this life and that there will be no looking when I need to find you, because I know you will be right there. I love you forever and always.

Mandy Barta - August 15, 2024 at 09:22 AM

CJ

“ Dad - I could not be prouder to be your son! I have so many great memories - too many to list them all. I will miss the simple things... watching a game, sharing a meal, or just sitting somewhere together without even saying a word. I'm a better person because of the lessons you taught me and the knowledge you shared. I'm a better father because of your example. You were always there for me when I needed you and I will miss your calm demeanor and steady, logical advice. I will miss you deeply. I will carry you in my heart always. Until I see you again...I Love You!! -Chris

Chris Johnson - August 13, 2024 at 07:42 PM