



## Douglas Robert Davis

January 25, 1962 - April 18, 2018

Douglas R. Davis died unexpectedly on Wednesday, April 18, 2018. Doug was a lifelong resident of Zanesville, Ohio. He was born January 25, 1962. He is survived by his wife of over 29 years, Teresa (Ellwood) Davis; sons, Austin and Brandon Davis; mother and father Pauline and Ron Davis; sisters Rhonda McGee (Rich) and Erin Roush (Bill); nieces, nephews and numerous close friends. He was preceded in death by his close personal friend Arno Price. He loved life, an occasional ride on his Harley, working on his farm, traveling with his wife and friends, but most of all he adored his boys.

Some people just know what they want to be when they grow up. Doug did; he wanted to be an engineer. He was a 1980 graduate of Bishop Rosecrans High School and a 1988 graduate of Ohio State University where he received a degree in Civil Engineering. Doug went on to achieve an Ohio Professional Engineers License in 1992 and then an Ohio Professional Surveyors License four years later. In 2004 he was elected to the office of Muskingum County Engineer for which he has served the past thirteen years. During his tenure in office he fought tirelessly to obtain grants and funding from various state and federal agencies to benefit the residents of Muskingum County. You could find Doug testifying in front of the Ohio State Senate or traveling to Washington D.C. to discuss the demands of our failing infrastructure. Doug's efforts to improve and innovate construction methods bought him national recognition. Most recently Doug received the Innovation Award from the National Steel

Bridge Alliance for the new steel tub girder bridge in Muskingum County.

Doug started his career in the coalmines of southeastern Ohio. During college he participated in a co-op with AEP, Central Ohio Coal. After graduation he became a construction engineer for the Ohio Department of Transportation. In 1995 Doug went to work for Sidwell Brothers Construction, where he worked for Rod Sidwell. A man Doug admired and often quoted throughout his life. After leaving Sidwells, Doug owned and operated his own engineering firm. Recently Doug served as an Adjunct Professor at Ohio University in Athens and Zane State College, where he taught and developed classes in Engineering, Surveying and Construction Management.

Doug's commitment and dedication to his community and profession was evident by his service in numerous organizations and boards throughout his life. Here are a few: Ohio's Research Initiative for Locals, County Engineers Association Of Ohio (past President), The Ohio State Civil Engineers Alumni Association (past President), American Society of Civil Engineers, Professional Land Surveyors of Ohio, National Association of Counties, The National Steel Bridge Alliance, The Knights of Columbus, Masonic La Fayette Lodge #79, Amrou Grotto #45, The Bishop Rosecrans Foundation (past President) and The Zanesville Ducks Unlimited.

We were incredibly blessed to have this larger than life, tenacious, and devoted man as part of our lives. His passion and love for his family, friends, and his profession were evident in all facets of his life. Doug's passing leaves a 6 foot 6 inch size hole in our hearts and in the community he served.

Friends may call from 4 PM to 8 PM on Monday, April 23, 2018 at the Hillis, Combs & Nestor Funeral Home, 935 Forest Avenue, Zanesville, where the Lafayette Masonic Lodge #79 will conduct Masonic Funeral Rites at 4 PM and the Amrou Grotto #45 conducting funeral services at 4:15 PM. A

remembrance celebration will take place at 9:30 AM, on Tuesday April 24, 2018 at the funeral home where memories will be shared of Doug's life, with a Mass of Christian Burial to be celebrated at 10:30 AM at St. Nicholas Catholic Church, 925 East Main St., Zanesville, with Father Martin Ralko as celebrant. A bereavement dinner will follow after Mass for family and friends. To sign the online register book or to send a personal condolence note please visit [www.hilliscombsnestor.com](http://www.hilliscombsnestor.com). We ask that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to Bishop Rosecrans General fund or to the Special Olympics through La Fayette Lodge #79 in Doug's name.

# Previous Events

## Masonic Services

APR **23**. 4:00 PM (ET)

Hillis Combs Funeral Home  
935 Forest Avenue  
Zanesville, OH 43701  
(740) 452-5494  
directors@hilliscombsnestor.com  
<https://www.hilliscombsnestor.com>

## Visitation

APR **23**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Hillis Combs Funeral Home  
935 Forest Avenue  
Zanesville, OH 43701  
(740) 452-5494  
directors@hilliscombsnestor.com  
<https://www.hilliscombsnestor.com>

## celebration of life

APR **24**. 9:30 AM (ET)

Hillis Combs Funeral Home  
935 Forest Avenue  
Zanesville, OH 43701  
(740) 452-5494  
directors@hilliscombsnestor.com  
<https://www.hilliscombsnestor.com>

## Mass of Christian Burial

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APR **24**. 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Nicholas Catholic Church  
925 Main St.  
Zanesville, OH

# Tribute Wall



“ *Douglas Robert Davis*

October 06, 2023 at 04:22 AM



“ *Teresa: My heart goes out to you and your family at this time. You are in my thoughts and prayers.*

*Renee Richards Miller*

**Renee Miller** - May 01, 2018 at 11:46 AM



“ *Pat & Mary Jo Lyon & Family lit a candle in memory of Douglas Robert Davis*



**Pat & Mary Jo Lyon & Family** - April 25, 2018 at 09:12 AM



*Our heartfelt condolences to each of you. May our Lord wrap you in His loving arms and provide you with the strength and courage during this difficult times. Doug will be missed by us all. God bless. Pat, Mary Jo Lyon & family*

**Pat& Mary Jo Lyon** - April 25, 2018 at 09:15 AM

FO

“ Dear family of Doug Davis, we join with you and others in grief over the loss of husband, father, son, uncle, friend, and colleague. A man larger than life, a leader, and a doer, Doug has made a positive and profound impact on many people. Included in those are members of Ohio’s asphalt paving industry who rose to his expectations that ensured the highest of quality for the people of Muskingum County. His work as a public servant is commendable. And we are thankful to have known him. May he rest in the arms of Christ Jesus his merciful Savior.  
*Flexible Pavements of Ohio*

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**Flexible Pavements of Ohio** - April 24, 2018 at 02:13 PM

MM

“ Mike And LouAnn (Collins) Maxwell lit a candle in memory of Douglas Robert Davis



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**Mike and LouAnn (Collins) Maxwell** - April 24, 2018 at 08:02 AM

MS

“ Deepest sympathies to you and the family. Doug was a great county engineer who I knew through the CEAO. I worked with him many times over the years.

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**Mark Stockman** - April 24, 2018 at 07:24 AM

TG

“ Very sorry for your loss. I share fond and special memories of your entire family growing up. May you be blessed with peace and comfort. Love and prayers,  
*Terri Grotegeer Gambrell*

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**Terri Gambrell** - April 23, 2018 at 07:24 PM

CR

“ Sending thoughts and prayers to the entire Davis family! I knew Doug way before he was 6'6"! I babysat for Doug, Rhonda and Erin. Doug was around 4 years old. I remember him as a happy kid, who always had a smile and an easy laugh! I'm sorry to say that I have never met Doug's wife or sons. Please know that you are in my thoughts! Ron and Pauline, may God wrap his arms around you and carry you through this difficult time! Also to Rhonda and Erin! Prayers! R.I.P. Doug! Carolyn (Smith) Rinehart

Carolyn Rinehart - April 23, 2018 at 04:51 PM



“ Sweet Sincerity was purchased for the family of Douglas Robert Davis.



April 23, 2018 at 02:03 PM



“ Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Douglas Robert Davis.



April 23, 2018 at 01:35 PM

GT

“ Rest well my friend. Maybe someday we will meet again and swap stories. Till then keep the roads clear and keep building bridges.

Gene Triplett - April 23, 2018 at 12:41 PM

JS

“ My heart and prayers goes out to Doug's family and friends. I had the opportunity to meet and interact with him recently as his student. He had a contagious enthusiasm and a love and pride of what he did and spoke very highly of his family.  
-Jacob S.

Jacob S - April 23, 2018 at 10:48 AM



“ Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Douglas Robert Davis.



April 23, 2018 at 10:28 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Douglas Robert Davis.



April 22, 2018 at 04:37 PM

AB

“ Amanda Browning sent a virtual gift in memory of Douglas Robert Davis



Amanda Browning - April 22, 2018 at 10:51 AM

BG

“ Beverly Gehlken lit a candle in memory of Douglas Robert Davis



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beverly gehlken - April 22, 2018 at 10:16 AM

BG

“ I am sending my condolences to the entire family, community. I send my condolences to his wife, sons, parents, siblings. Yes Doug was 66 and had the heart of one also to match his frame. I so enjoyed watching him play basketball. I would run into him quite often, he would always chat. Regardless of what we talked about he never went on with his day without talking about his 2 boys with so much pride. He sure did have a great love for family and community. Thank you for those chats, Thank you for being you and doing so much for the community. You will be missed. I am so very sorry for your loss. Am praying for comfort for the entire family.

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beverly gehlken - April 22, 2018 at 10:14 AM

JW

“ Teresa, Austin and Brandon , Our deepest sympathies to your family . Our hearts are broken for all of you . Doug was a great guy , he was always willing to help with whatever was needed . Memories are what you have to hold on to and get you through the days ahead. Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers . RIP DOUG 💔 Ron , Joy & Family

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Joy Winland - April 21, 2018 at 10:42 PM

SL

*Teresa my heart goes out to you and your family. Doug was a great guy. He will be missed by all. Thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. Cherish the memories!*

Susan Lasure - April 22, 2018 at 08:04 AM

MM

“ *Sorry for your loss. He must have been one heck of a man. I m sorry I never met him except on your wedding day. You are a strong woman and with your family support, you will make him proud. God Bless you and your family.*

*Janice and Mel McAfee  
Stone Creek, Oh.*

Mel McAfee - April 21, 2018 at 05:37 PM

TF

“ *The Payton Family lit a candle in memory of Douglas Robert Davis*



The Payton Family - April 21, 2018 at 03:55 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Douglas Robert Davis.*



April 21, 2018 at 03:52 PM

MF

“ Sincere condolences, Rhonda and family.



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**Mary Farus** - April 21, 2018 at 11:53 AM

SE

“ I got to know Doug when he came on board working for the county and then was able to become County Engineer...He loved his job, had a great personality and fun to be around. My deepest sympathy, as my thoughts and prayers go out to the family.

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**Sherry Elson** - April 21, 2018 at 11:01 AM

SK

“ Teresa, Austin and Brandon words are not adequate to express our sympathy for your loss. I first knew of Doug Davis as one of the tall lanky high schoolers that was part of the Rosecrans Basketball team. Then years later Steve and I met Doug through our boys activities of baseball and Cub Scouts. I still remember his patience dealing with those boys during baseball. I appreciate his diligence at trying to mold the boys into responsible young men. I always enjoyed run into Doug at various events or just somewhere around town seeing his smile was contagious and would bring a smile to my face as well. Doug loved his boys! When sharing their recent activities or accomplishments you could see the pride and love he had for them. Doug had a kind heart and I feel honored to have met him and called him a friend!

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**Steve and Chris Kuhn** - April 21, 2018 at 09:48 AM

SS

“ *My deepest sympathies to all the family. Prayers.*

Sarah Dinan Sims - April 21, 2018 at 09:29 AM

BN

“ *Teresa, Austin, Brandon, Ron and Paulene, you have my heartfelt sympathy. Doug had a great personality. He could connect with people. His love for the profession of engineering showed. He helped me get through engineering school. Thinking of you all.*

Brian, Megan, and Benjamin Newton - April 21, 2018 at 09:07 AM

SH

“ *In 8th grade I loved to brag about Doug being my cousin. He was larger than life to me. So glad I reconnected with him at the gym in the past few months. Prayers going out for the family.*



Stefany Davis Holbein - April 21, 2018 at 08:23 AM

MA

“ *What a great man, RIP Doug.*

marco adornetto - April 21, 2018 at 08:09 AM

BM

“ *So sorry for your loss. Love and prayers Betsy and Pat Mahaffey*

Betsy Mahaffey - April 21, 2018 at 07:11 AM

SC

“ *My deepest sympathy and prayers to special family. Sandy Cavinee*

Sandy Cavinee - April 21, 2018 at 05:26 AM

CC

“ I’m very sorry for your loss of Doug. I worked at ODOT and Doug was always a very pleasant guy to be around. He always had a smile on his face. Praying for comfort at this most difficult time. Sincerely, Charles Cornelius

Charles Cornelius - April 21, 2018 at 05:19 AM

JD

“ Jim & Kim Dillon lit a candle in memory of Douglas Robert Davis



Jim & Kim Dillon - April 20, 2018 at 09:31 PM

JD

Teresa, Austin, & Brandon plz know you all are in our thoughts and prayers. Sending our deepest sympathy. 🙏🙏🙏

Jim & Kim Dillon - April 20, 2018 at 09:34 PM

JK

“ Thoughts & prayers for the family & friends. I’ve known Doug since he played softball for Pepsi Team in the mid-late 1980’s. Plus he had been to my father’s wiener roast a few times. Rest In Peace Doug.



jill kirkbride - April 20, 2018 at 09:31 PM

TF

“ *The Sucharski Family purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Douglas Robert Davis.*



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**The Sucharski Family** - April 20, 2018 at 07:55 PM

CH

“ *I ran into Doug a few months back while waiting to get a tire changed. We shared a few memories and laughs of the old neighborhood and growing up on the hill. He spoke of his family and you could tell how proud he was. We will keep you all in our thoughts and prayers.*



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**Craig and Vicki (Mock) Holsky** - April 20, 2018 at 07:38 PM

JS

“ *Teresa, Austin and Brandon,*

*You have my deepest sympathy, and condolences from the entire Sucharski family. Doug and I shared lunch, and as always great conversation together at this year's asphalt paving conference . I will miss those many conversations.*

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**Jody D. Sucharski** - April 20, 2018 at 07:37 PM

KL

“ *So sorry for your loss. Our thoughts & prayers go out to the Davis family. Ted & Kathy Loewendick*

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**Kathy Loewendick** - April 20, 2018 at 06:13 PM

SF

“ *Secrest Family lit a candle in memory of Douglas Robert Davis*



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**Secrest Family** - April 20, 2018 at 04:45 PM

CE

“ *Sending many prayers to your family during this difficult time!*

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**Carla Ewing** - April 20, 2018 at 03:54 PM

DS

“ *Teresa, Austin and Brandon, My thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. May your memories give you strength. Doug was an outstanding engineer, who was always willing to share his knowledge with whoever was willing to learn from him. Over the years, we didn't always see eye to eye, but we always parted as friends. He will be missed.*



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**Denis Swierz** - April 20, 2018 at 01:52 AM