



## Douglas Roy Vermillion

December 31, 2017

Douglas (Doug) R. Vermillion of Charleston passed away December 31, 2017 after heroic battles with multiple cancers, surrounded by his family.

Doug was born on October 17, 1955 and grew up in Kanawha City playing army men, sandlot baseball and riding bikes. He believed he lived the idyllic, iconic childhood with his big “sissy”, Kathy and his adoring parents. At age 15, he learned to play the bass guitar and his lifelong destiny was set. Doug played with a style and enthusiasm that was uniquely his own.

Throughout his lifetime he played with numerous bands and admired musicians in WV and NY and was a published and prolific songwriter. He married his best friend and soulmate, Donna in 1976. They lived in NY and moved back to WV in 1980. He then set to follow in his Dad’s footsteps and started a 36-year career at Dupont. They raised one daughter and two sons.

Doug had a way of making everyone he met feel they were special and was considered by so many a “brother”. He was a voracious reader as the stacks of books in his home can attest. He was a lover of nature, always making sure the birds and deer were fed. Doug was the ultimate sports fan, knowing every stat or detail of the team or athlete he followed. Doug was a hero to his grandchildren and cherished being “Pawpaw”. He loved indulging his grandson, Khalyl’s love of trains, taking him on many trips to Cass Scenic

Railroad. His three young granddaughters, Madison, Emma, and Lilly, were the lights of his life and they many sleepovers helped him endure his treatments.

Doug is survived by his wife of 41 years, Donna; daughter, Mikele and two sons, Schuyler (Michele) and Troy (Caitlin), four grandchildren; sister, Kathy; niece, Christy in addition to many extended family members.

Doug was preceded in death by his parents, Roy and Mable Vermillion. The family would like to extend a big “thank-you” to the nurses and doctors of the CPICU at CAMC Memorial Hospital for the love and care they provided Doug.

Funeral service will be at 11:00am Saturday January 6, 2018 at Bartlett-Chapman Funeral Home, St. Albans with Pastor Lee Swor officiating. Burial will follow in Cunningham Memorial Park, St. Albans.

Visitation will be from 5-7pm Friday at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggest donations, be made to the American Cancer Society.

You may share memories of Doug on his tribute page by visiting [ChapmanFuneralHomes.com](http://ChapmanFuneralHomes.com)

Bartlett-Chapman Funeral Home, family-owned and located at 409 Sixth Avenue, St. Albans is honored to serve the Vermillion family.

# Cemetery Details

## Cunningham Memorial Park

815 Cunningham Lane  
Saint Albans, WV 25177

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 5. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Bartlett-Chapman Funeral Home  
409 Sixth Avenue  
St. Albans, WV 25177  
(304) 727-4325  
info@chapmanfuneralhomes.com  
<http://www.chapmanfuneralhomes.com>

## Funeral Service

JAN 6. 11:00 AM (ET)

Bartlett-Chapman Funeral Home  
409 Sixth Avenue  
St. Albans, WV 25177  
(304) 727-4325  
info@chapmanfuneralhomes.com  
<http://www.chapmanfuneralhomes.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Douglas Roy Vermillion*

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October 06, 2023 at 08:41 AM



“ *Miss this man. We had not worked together for many years, then suddenly we spent a few months in the old laboratory. A gift given but not realized. Rest in Peace young man.*

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**Lewis Stanley** - November 05, 2018 at 05:48 PM

RO

“ To Donna, your three children, and Kathy,  
You all have been in our thoughts and prayers over  
the past few days. The pictures you shared testified  
to a man who was well loved by both family and  
many friends. In addition, they showed a man who  
appeared to battle a disease with braveness and  
a sense of humor all his own. Donna, my admiration  
to you for being not only Doug's wife of 41 years,  
but a help mate who exemplified the words, in sickness  
and in health. Thank you.

The Vermillion family all played a role in my life for  
which I am grateful. In middle and high school, both  
Mabel and Kathy opened their hearts and home to me.  
And Doug, well with humor I will say he and his friends,  
we were the pilot for The 70's Show. Complete with a  
father we all called Red!

I am so very sorry that his time here on earth was limited  
to 62 years. However, he touched so many lives just by  
being his simple and humble self. So grateful, as I am  
sure your children are, that he experienced the joy of  
grandchildren. It's one of the best things we can enjoy  
in the later years of life. I pray that your treasury of  
memories will lighten your heavy hearts and that you  
will all be held in the palm of God's almighty hand,  
today and in the days ahead. I lost my best girlfriend  
in Wheeling to cancer a few months ago and read this,  
"Doug (inserted) may have taken his last earthly breath in  
Charleston, West Virginia, but in his next breath, he inhaled  
Heaven."

God's blessings to each one of you,  
Becky (Elliott) and Bobby Och

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Rebecca E Och - January 07, 2018 at 10:49 PM

AS

“ I remember Doug as an inspiration to a fellow bass player as his playing was always tremendous. He was also a great songwriter. Doug was a sweet, humble and funny guy who was always a pleasure to be around. My condolences to his wife Donna, his children and the rest of his family.

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**Alan Smith** - January 06, 2018 at 10:47 AM

GR

“ Doug never seemed at a loss for words, but I am... though I'm with you in Heartland.

--gopher



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**George Rollins** - January 05, 2018 at 08:14 PM

GO

“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**gopher** - January 05, 2018 at 04:19 PM

MB

“ Sending my dearest condolences to all of Doug’s family. He and I were friends at work and worked quite a few weekends together at the lab. He and I could carry a long conversation about music, food and restaurants, and almost anything else when we worked our shifts together. He always was a joy to be around and I looked forward to seeing him and hearing about his stories and having a good laugh together. He will be missed by many and there’s no doubt that we will continue to remember his life together for years to come.

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**Matthew Bukovinsky** - January 04, 2018 at 05:46 PM

KL

“ Didn’t work in the lab, but worked around Doug for many years. Was an extremely nice person. Sorry for your loss.

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**Keith Lewis** - January 04, 2018 at 12:18 PM

DB

“ To Donna, Dot and Ray, and entire family,

*Oh so sad to hear of Doug's passing!*

*He, and all of you are in our prayers.*

*Love*

*Diane and Bill*

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**Diane and Bill** - January 04, 2018 at 10:38 AM

FM

“ I couldn't recognize him from his picture. When we played together in Black Horse Band, he had long, curly, bushy hair and a great full beard. I can't remember the name of that big bass amplifier he had, but we all called it "the refrigerator" and it was just about as heavy as a real refrigerator. I was the lead vocalist in Black Horse at that time (it was in the 70's) and I always appreciated a bass player that could provide a good, strong bottom in a song, because a lot of times, that was what I listened for for ques and entrances into a song and Doug's playing was always on the mark. He was easy to follow. Please accept my condolences and know that I have fond memories of Doug.

Fred Mixer  
Clendenin, WV

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Frederick Mixer - January 04, 2018 at 09:56 AM

CT

“ I can honestly say that God smiled down on me, the day that I met Doug. Over the years, we have shared many stages, many Yankees stories and many many laughs.

Through it all, Doug has been ever encouraging and a very dear friend.

I always felt warm when we would meet, and I always prepared to laugh my rear end off.

When my second wife Vickie died, he was one of the folks who reached out to console me.

I feel deeply saddened by our loss, but I know that Doug is in Heaven, and in no time he'll be making music with many.

To Donna, and his family, may Allah grant Doug rest, and give our hearts peace.

Doug, I will cherish you forever.

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charlie tee - January 03, 2018 at 05:39 PM

GV

“ My sincere sympathy to all of the family. Doug and I were the best of friends from second through sixth grade in KC and spent a lot of time on sports and music. We lost touch but I never forgot those days and he was a wonderful friend to so many of us. God Bless you all and know that he will be missed and always in our hearts.....Guy Vaughan

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**Guy Vaughan** - January 03, 2018 at 03:37 PM

SH

*I love Doug. He hated that we loved him. He was always a gentleman. He made work fun. I cherish the times we shared at work. We had a lot of meaningful talks. He always tried to say the right thing to make you feel better. I consider it a blessing to be his friend. I am unable to be at his services because I am out of town but know my heart is with you. May God comfort you and his memory give you peace. Doug is truly one in a million. Sharon and Butch Herndon*

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**sharon herndon** - January 04, 2018 at 03:30 PM

KR

*I just heard that Doug had passed. He was a dear friend. He was my Suri and Google Search before there was ever such a thing. He knew everything. I love talking to him about books and music and saw him perform one of his original songs. I was quite impressed but he acted as if it were nothing. I am so sorry Donna and family. I wish I had known so I could have talked to him and been there for his service. I was truly shocked. He was a great man that I will always remember highly. Knowing him made my life better. Thank you, Doug*

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**Kelly Ratliff** - July 12, 2018 at 09:44 AM



“ 68 files added to the album LifeTributes



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**Chapman Funeral Homes** - January 03, 2018 at 01:41 PM