



Thomas "Tom" Alfred Dougela

May 25, 1940 - September 17, 2023

It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of a remarkable man, Thomas A. Dougela, affectionately known as Tom or Big Guy. Tom departed this world on September 17th, 2023, at his home in Buford, GA, leaving behind a legacy of love, laughter, and countless cherished memories.

Tom was born to his late father, Charles Dougela, and mother, Valeria Stankevich, and is survived by his sisters, Claire Pizzola, and Marge Clay, and his brother, Raymond Dougela, and sister-in-law, Tracy. He was a loving husband to his devoted wife, Terry Dougela, and a proud father to daughters Kimberly Maddox (Tim), and Deborah Stazak, and step-daughter, Abigail Dillard.

Tom's life was further enriched by the presence of his adoring grandchildren, Samantha Simmons (Justin), Morgan Marks (William), Zachary Maddox, Tobin Stazak, and Raegan Stazak, as well as his step-granddaughters, Katelyn Parks, and Taylor Edison (Tyler) and step-grandson, Jake Ricks. He leaves behind his adored great-granddaughters, Rosie Marks and Annie Simmons. He is also survived by his former wife, Kathleen Dougela, former sons-in-law Chris Maddox (Paige) and John Stazak (Rhonda). He will further be missed by his grand-dog, Foster, who he cherished as a beloved buddy.

Tom's journey through life was nothing short of extraordinary. He proudly

served his country as a member of the United States Army. He was a Drill Soloist in the U.S. Army Drill Team and was honored to be a part of the President's Honor Guard, where he had the privilege of serving under Presidents John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson. His dedication to duty and his unwavering commitment to his country were emblematic of his character.

Beyond his military service, Tom was a respected figure in the business world, serving as Owner of J. Thomas Honda. He was a visionary in the automotive industry, and his passion for automobiles and boating was infectious, bringing joy to all who shared in his enthusiasm.

To pay tribute to this remarkable man, we invite family and friends to join us for visitation at Flanigan Funeral Home, beginning Sunday, September 24, 2023, at 12 pm, followed by a heartfelt service at 2 pm. Tom's final resting place will be at Georgia National Cemetery on Monday, September 25, 2023, at 1:30 pm.

As a final tribute to Tom's dedication to his fellow veterans and service members, in lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests donations be made to the Wounded Warrior Project by visiting their website, [Create a Memorial Page | Wounded Warrior Project Community Fundraising communityfundraising.woundedwarriorproject.org](https://www.woundedwarriorproject.org)

Tom's vibrant spirit, love, and indomitable character will forever echo in our hearts. He leaves behind a tapestry of memories that will continue to inspire us all. Though he may have bid us farewell, his legacy lives on in the lives he touched and the hearts he warmed. May you rest easy in peace and love, Big Guy, knowing that you are adored and cherished, now and always.

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **24.** 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Flanigan Funeral Home
4400 South Lee Street
Buford, GA 30518

Funeral Service

SEP **24.** 2:00 PM.

Chapel of Flanigan Funeral Home

Tribute Wall

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“ Even though we were sometimes thorns in each other's sides, I always considered you to be, for lack of a better word, a substitute dad and greatly valued your counsel (especially when it came to car buying). You were always a part of my world, even if it was in the periphery. Heck, I knew you almost as long as my dad he knew me and do not know life without you. I wish you smooth seas in The Great Beyond. xoxo Tammy

Theresa McMahon Taylor - September 24, 2023 at 05:57 AM

BD

“ Brent Danneman lit a candle in memory of Thomas "Tom" Dougela



Brent Danneman - September 21, 2023 at 11:03 AM