



## Mr. Douglas Neal Varner

December 23, 1956 - October 1, 2023

Douglas Neal Varner, age 66, passed away at his family home on Varner Road, also the homeplace of his father and grandfather, in the Bold Spring Community of Franklin County on Sunday, October 1, 2023 following an extended illness. Mr. Varner was born in Commerce, GA on December 23, 1956 to the late W.T. and Jewell Varner.

Doug is survived by his wife of 45 years, Renee Simmons Varner; three children-Jessica Varner of Cumming, Melanie and Damon Kepes of Carnesville, and Brandon and Jennifer Varner of Carnesville; three granddaughters-Ella, Eva, and Lydia of Cumming; four siblings-Stan and Claudine Varner of Commerce, Sharon and Dave Tonge of Commerce, Kathy Varner of Duluth, and Dan Varner of Commerce, as well as many nieces and nephews.

Known affectionately as “Oldie” to his three granddaughters, Doug was a carpenter, farmer, and loving father and grandfather who lived a life of character, kindness, and strength. He was also a lifelong sports fan and outdoorsman.

He was a graduate of Banks County High School in 1974, where he played baseball, basketball, and football. He continued to enjoy sports, especially UGA football and the Atlanta Braves.

Doug was a skilled carpenter for over 20 years and continued his career as a Jackson County Correctional Officer supervising a mobile construction crew for 22 years. Doug willingly used his carpentry skills to help others.

Mr. Varner was a lifelong member of Bold Spring United Methodist Church. He served on the maintenance committee and as an usher for many years.

His favorite times were spent outdoors hunting and fishing and at the many activities of his children and grandchildren. His resilient toughness in the life he lived was evident in the family he raised as a loving husband and father in the house he built for them.

The family will receive friends from 5 pm-8 pm, Tuesday, October 3, 2023 at Little-Ward Funeral Home in Commerce.

Funeral services will be held at 2:30 pm, Wednesday, October 4, 2023 at Bold Spring United Methodist Church with Reverend Ross Wheeler and The Rev. Dr. Dave Tonge officiating. Burial will follow in the Bold Spring United Methodist Church Cemetery.

Flowers are accepted or donations to your local Special Olympics in honor of Doug's love of athletics and his children and grandchildren.

Little-Ward Funeral Home, Commerce is in charge of arrangements.

# Cemetery Details

## **Bold Spring Church Cemetery**

3171 Bold Spring Rd.  
Carnesville, GA 30521

# Previous Events

## **Visitation**

OCT 3. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Little-Ward Funeral Home  
115 State Street  
Commerce, GA 30529  
(706) 335-3175  
lwfh@windstream.net  
<https://www.little-wardfuneralhome.com/>

## **Service**

OCT 4. 2:30 PM (ET)

Bold Spring Church  
3171 Bold Spring Rd.  
Carnesville, GA 30521

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Douglas Neal Varner*

October 09, 2023 at 05:17 AM



“ *Renee, you are in our thoughts and prayers. May God comfort your family and you with peace and fond memories at this time and in the days to come.*

*Love, Carole & Barry Thornton*

**Barry Thornton** - October 03, 2023 at 09:11 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Douglas Neal Varner.*



October 03, 2023 at 05:20 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. Douglas Neal Varner.*



October 03, 2023 at 04:44 PM



“ *Sorry for loss thanking of you*

**ricky simmons** - October 03, 2023 at 04:00 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Douglas Neal Varner.*



---

October 03, 2023 at 11:24 AM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Mr. Douglas Neal Varner.*



---

October 03, 2023 at 10:21 AM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mr. Douglas Neal Varner.*

---

October 03, 2023 at 10:21 AM

KH

“ Mr. Varner was such a pleasure to work with. His skill set was amazing, one of the most talented men with exceptional craftsmanship. He could make any idea you had a reality. He came into my office one day after I had had knee surgery to see how I was. He said, "aren't you supposed to have it elevated", I said yes but that's hard to do sitting at a desk, 30 minutes later Doug walks in with a freshly made table that fit perfectly under my desk for my knee to be elevated. He was a man of few words but what he said always was spot on for the situation. The world lost a good man, heaven gained a wonderful soul and an amazing carpenter! Those many mansions will be a treasure with Mr. Varner overseeing the project. My prayers are with his family and everyone that Doug's life impacted.

*Kathy Hall*

---

**Kathy Halal** - October 03, 2023 at 09:21 AM

JM

“ Jackson County Facilities Maintenance purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Mr. Douglas Neal Varner.



---

**Jackson County Facilities Maintenance** - October 03, 2023 at 09:20 AM



“ Renee I am so sorry for your loss. I remember you and Doug from school and considered you guys friends for life. He will be missed by all.

---

**Natalie Pinson** - October 03, 2023 at 09:18 AM

TP

“ Thanks for all you did for the Solid Waste Department. My prayers to your family. TOM PAGE

Tom Page - October 03, 2023 at 09:09 AM

DB

“ Mr. Varner and his crew were a great help to us as we began the Jackson County Agricultural Facility here in Jefferson. The benches he built will serve the Ag Facility for many years to come. Prayers for peace and comfort to his family.

David Burton

David Burton - October 03, 2023 at 07:49 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mr. Douglas Neal Varner.



October 03, 2023 at 07:48 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mr. Douglas Neal Varner.

October 03, 2023 at 07:48 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Douglas Neal Varner.*



---

October 02, 2023 at 11:19 PM



“ *Tender Tribute was purchased for the family of Mr. Douglas Neal Varner.*



---

October 02, 2023 at 07:26 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Mr. Douglas Neal Varner.*



---

October 02, 2023 at 06:37 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Douglas Neal Varner.*



---

October 02, 2023 at 06:33 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Mr. Douglas Neal Varner.*



---

October 02, 2023 at 05:31 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Mr. Douglas Neal Varner.*



---

October 02, 2023 at 04:25 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Douglas Neal Varner.*



---

October 02, 2023 at 03:02 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. Douglas Neal Varner.*



---

October 02, 2023 at 02:53 PM



“ *Tropical Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Douglas Neal Varner.*



---

October 02, 2023 at 02:45 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mr. Douglas Neal Varner.

---

October 02, 2023 at 02:45 PM