



Douglas A. Cutcher Memorial Endowment

*"Promise you won't forget about me, ever.
Not even when I'm a hundred."*

A.A. Milne

Doug Cutcher was a special person who truly impacted the lives of those he met—whether it was by making them laugh, being a shoulder to cry on, talking about the Red Sox, or by expressing his love for Ford Mustangs. Doug was an easy-going, fun and genuine person to be around. People like him are hard to come by, and he is so missed.

Doug was born on December 2, 1970 in Westfield. Sadly, Doug's father died on his 6th birthday. Doug grew up with his mother and his older brother Michael. He attended St. Mary's Elementary School, where I met him in first grade. I was lucky enough to be his best friend for the remaining 15 years of his life. Doug also attended St. Mary's High School and after graduation, he entered the United States Air Force. He was stationed at McGuire Air Force Base in New Jersey as an airport firefighter. Doug served in Operation Desert Storm where he provided fire protection for Allied C-130 aircraft. His military awards included the National Defense Service Medal, Southwest Asian Service Medal, Outstanding Unit with Valor Medal, and Kuwait Liberation Medal.

Much to the relief of his family and friends, Doug returned safely from Saudi Arabia and resumed his duties at McGuire Air Force Base. Then, on May 30, 1992, Doug was killed by two men who stole his car (yes, it was a Ford Mustang). Doug was only 21 years old. Even today, words cannot describe how I felt when I found out that Doug was gone. His closest friends and I set up the Douglas A. Cutcher Memorial Scholarship Foundation, had annual fundraisers, and gave out many scholarships to St. Mary's High School seniors. We then decided to join forces with CSF of Westfield to ensure that Doug's memory and scholarships would continue forever, even long after we were gone.

In closing, let me say thank you for taking the time to read this, to find out about Douglas A. Cutcher the person, not just the name written on the scholarship.

Written by: Sheila N. Byrnes
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