



Douglas Lynn Leastman

July 10, 1945 – April 15, 2019

Douglas Lynn Leastman, 73 of Casa Grande, AZ, passed away April 15, 2019 at Banner Casa Grande Medical Center. He left us all too quickly, leaving our hearts broken and empty, but we know Doug is filled with joy in the presence of Jesus and reunited with his son, Greg, his dad and other loved ones.

Doug was born in Johnson City, NY, the oldest child of Eleanor Davall Leastman and the late Lynn Leastman. His family lived in the Rochester, NY area for several years before settling in Brockport, NY, where he met and married Helen Jones.

Throughout his life, Doug loved everything about trucks, from playing with them as a child to later hanging around the garage where his dad kept his work trucks. It seemed only natural that as an adult, he would choose to work as a professional CDL tractor trailer driver, receiving many driver excellence awards from the companies he worked with in NY and in Arizona, where he and Helen moved in 1991. Doug retired in 2015 from Bashas' Transportation, Chandler, AZ, but stayed very busy volunteering with the M.A.S.H. Food Ministry of his church, New Beginnings Nazarene Church of Casa Grande. He did everything from repairing vehicles to packing food boxes, to distributing the Manna Food Project. Whatever was needed Doug was willing to do and enjoyed doing it.

When Doug was three years old, his dad gave him his first electric train set for Christmas. That fascination with trains started a lifetime of collecting Lionel O Gauge trains.

Without a doubt, his very favorite days were spent fishing in Florida with his son, David. Doug made many trips to fish on Tampa Bay, The Keys, and other waterways. Several times his good friend, Terry Grant from Gilbert, AZ, would go with him. Doug always said it was so peaceful out on the water. What a thrill for him when he would hook "the big one". Great times and great memories.

Doug was a man of God, a loving husband and father, a man of integrity, a gentleman, a hard worker, and a true friend. He enjoyed spending time with his family, which also included at least one or two dogs and a family cat. We'll always miss him here with us, but he will forever be in our hearts, never forgotten.

Doug is survived by his wife of 53 years, Helen of Casa Grande, AZ; his son, David of Apollo Beach, FL; his mother, Eleanor of Casa Grande; two sisters and brothers-in-law, JoAnn and Richard Kennedy of Casa Grande and Judi and Kurly O'Brien of Sun Lakes; two brothers and sisters-in-law, Jerry and Karen Leastman of Casa Grande and Kevin and Rachel Leastman of Gilbert; other close out-of-state family: Robert Ayers, Donna and David Blake, all of Stafford, NY, Tim and Juliane Ayers of Fairfield, PA, Marylyn Davall and Cherie and Kevin Gibbons, all of New Jersey, several nieces and nephews; many dear old friends and many new friends.

An upcoming family time to share memories and celebrate his life is being planned. His ashes will be scattered over Tampa Bay where he loved to fish. Memorials may be made in his honor to New Beginnings Church of the Nazarene, 1915 N. Casa Grande Avenue, Casa Grande, AZ 85122.

