



Douglas Kerr

November 19, 1940 - November 27, 2024

Douglas Santee Kerr, PhD, passed away peacefully on November 27, 2024, in Columbus, Ohio, at the age of 84. Born on November 19, 1940, he was the only child of Albert Santee Kerr and Harriet Allen Kerr.

Douglas led a remarkable life marked by academic achievement and a deep appreciation for family, friends, and the arts. He earned his undergraduate degree from Yale University before pursuing one of the first PhDs in computer science at Purdue University. A pioneering graduate in his field, Douglas became an original faculty member of The Ohio State University's Computer & Information Science department (now known as the Department of Computer Science & Engineering), where he contributed significantly to the growth and development of this emerging discipline. Outside of his professional accomplishments, Douglas was an avid amateur photographer who found joy especially in capturing moments in nature. He had a passion for food, wine, and the arts, which he cherished most when shared with loved ones. His favorite place was Twitchell Lake in the Adirondack Mountains, a sanctuary that brought him peace and inspiration. Douglas is survived by his beloved wife, Wauneta Peacock Kerr; his daughter, Kirsten Kerr (William Climer); and his granddaughter, Lyla Climer. He also leaves behind nieces and nephews who will remember him fondly and he loved dearly. A memorial service will be held on January 25, 2025, at the Heritage Pointe building of Ohio Living Westminster-Thurber (11th floor) in Columbus. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Adirondack Council in Douglas's memory at <https://donat>

e.adirondackcouncil.org/memorial. Douglas's legacy as a trailblazer in computer science and a man who valued connection and creativity will live on in the hearts of those who knew him. May his memory bring comfort to all who mourn his passing.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JAN **25**. 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Westminister Thurber
717 Neil Avenue
Columbus, OH 43215

Tribute Wall

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“ January 3, 2025 -- Dear Family of Professor Douglas Kerr:

I was sad to know that Prof. Kerr passed away. He and I were faculty members in the OSU College of Engineering. My students had very high opinion about his dedicated approach in education. His passing away is a great loss of the entire Kerr family, and of the OSU computer engineering community. He was always a nice, smiling, polite person. May he rest in peace !! Our sincere and heartfelt condolences and sympathy to the Kerr family, on behalf of my wife, Eva, too -- from Stephen Sebo.

Stephen Sebo - January 03, 2025 at 01:53 PM