



## Doug Cole

November 24, 2011

Mr. Wade Douglas Cole, age 56 of Austell, passed away November 24, 2011. Doug was a member of East-West Church and was employed with Norfolk Southern. He is survived by his wife, Mary Cole; son, Jonathan Aaron Cole of Mableton, son & daughter-in-law, Garrett Douglas & Amy Cole of Powder Springs; daughter and son-in-law, Maggie & Maurice Barnes of Powder Springs; grandson, Mason Reece Barnes; mother, Ruth Fralin Cole of Suffolk, VA; sisters & brothers-in-law, Carolyn & Jack Hill of Wichita Falls, TX; Andrea & Brad Bender of Salt Lake City, UT; brother & sister-in-law, Barry & Kathy Cole of Suffolk, VA. Funeral Services will be held Thursday, December 1, 2011 at 11:00 AM, In-state 10:00 AM at East-West Church in Marietta. Bishop H. Alan Mushegan, Jr. will officiate. The family will receive friends on Wednesday from 4-8 PM at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to East-West Church, 1521 Hurt Road, Marietta, GA 30008. Arrangements are with Davis-Struempf Funeral Home & Crematory in Austell.

# Events

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**NOV**   **Visitation**                    04:00PM - 08:00PM

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Davis-Struempf Funeral Home

1975 East-West Connector, Austell, GA, US, 30106

**DEC**   **Service**                            11:00AM

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East-West Church

1521 Hurt Road, SW, Marietta, GA, US, 30008

# Comments

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“ I was saddened to learn of Doug’s passing. I recall our last conversation and his warm wishes to me for a healthy and happy retirement. I offer my sincere condolences and prayers to the family.

**Dan Pratcher** - December 02, 2011 at 03:38 PM

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“ To all of Doug's family, I offer my deepest sympathies. I am truly sad to learn of his passing, especially since I saw and talked with him several times just before my retirement this year. As usual he was his usual, positive smiling self. I always admired him, especially for his well-deserved recognition from his early days, through the early CR days, and into Modalgistics. The world is a better place for having him here - he will always be with us. I will miss him.

**Stephen Warner** - December 02, 2011 at 12:42 PM

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“ I lit a candle for Doug in the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Savannah this week. It was an honor to sing in the choir with him. I am sorry he is gone from you and from us so soon. May God continually comfort you with HIS Holy Presence.  
Jackie and Gary

**Gary and Jackie Williams** - December 02, 2011 at 07:38 AM

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“ Your entire family is in our hearts and prayers during this tragic time. Doug was a good friend and co-worker for many years at NS. He and I worked together in the mail room at Roanoke early in our careers. We did not learn of this tragic accident in time to attend the services since we were out of town on vacation. Please know that we are deeply saddened by your loss and will miss Doug greatly at work.

**Malcolm G. Roop** - December 01, 2011 at 04:38 PM

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“ Doug was a fine member of Norfolk Southern's family, a productive and caring employee contributing very much over a long career. We will all miss him and I send my condolences to his family.



“ Hello Mary and the kids, my heart goes out to you and the kids. I love you all and you all will always be in my prayers. I worked with mary in xray and I knew doug and he will be missed. 404-725-3644

God Bless

**Betty SMith** - December 01, 2011 at 12:13 PM

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“ When first we knew Doug, he became an instant friend to us as well as Roger and Amy. He was just that kind of person you knew you could trust and with whom you wanted to be associated. Over the years that friendship grew, and Doug and Mary, Jonathan, Garrett, and Maggie became like family. We had the unique opportunity of sharing in the marriage of Garrett and Amy less than 2 weeks ago. What a beautiful time we shared together. We thank God for this Christian man that he put into our lives.

**Fred and Linda Stone** - December 01, 2011 at 08:54 AM

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“ Mary, Garrett, Jonathan and Maggie: I am so, so, so sorry for your loss.

Sue Day Dunn

**Susan Day Dunn** - November 30, 2011 at 08:15 PM

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“ We would like to express our deepest sympathy to the Cole Family, Doug was a really nice person, and as Brandi would say "he was one of the nicest people she knew". May God bless and keep your family during this very trying time.

**David and Deodra Harris** - November 30, 2011 at 03:45 PM

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“ I know there are no words that I can say to any of you right now. Please take comfort in the prayers and the love that is surrounding you. My family loves you all very much and we are lifting you up in prayer during this time. We are here for you whenever and whatever you may need. God Bless each of you.

**Tami Ivester** - November 30, 2011 at 01:59 PM



“ I am deeply saddened to hear about Doug’s passing. I would like to express my heartfelt sympathy. I was honored with the opportunity to work with Doug on several projects within Norfolk Southern over the past few years. He had such an uplifting, vibrant spirit and always seemed to have a smile on his face every time I would see him. I have such fond memories of him and his way of keeping me laughing about something. He always spoke so highly of his family and I know that you all are the center of his joy. He will truly be missed. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

**Chaina Smith** - November 29, 2011 at 06:32 PM

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“ Doug always had a smile on his face and delivered a friendly word each time he passed by me. His energy was contagious! His Norfolk Southern family sure does miss him. My deepest sympathies go out to you and your family. May God be with you during this time.

**Mary Jane Boylan** - November 29, 2011 at 06:07 PM

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“ Doug was a very special person. I worked with Doug on the Diversity Council w/ Norfolk Southern. He always provided smiles and encouragement. We both had a love for Yorkies. He will truly be missed. May God provide strength for the family during this tragic time.

**Jutta Spencer** - November 29, 2011 at 04:03 PM

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“ My deepest sympathy to Doug's family. Doug and I go back many years when we worked together in payroll. We will miss him. May the Lord bring you peace and comfort!

**Buster Meeh** - November 29, 2011 at 02:11 PM

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“ To the Family,

My thoughts and prayers are with you. Doug and I were in the same Dept. at NS for several years. May GOD bring you comfort during this difficult time.

**Donna Rice** - November 29, 2011 at 10:58 AM

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“ God said he will equip us to handle all life has for us. Events continually show He has more regard for our ability to do this than we do ourselves. We love you guys and wish you all the best in this troubling time.

**Larry & Yoshiko Barnett** - November 29, 2011 at 10:40 AM

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“ So sad to hear of the passing of your husband, and father. Words can't ease your pain, but hopefully through reading these words from your family, freinds, and coworkers, it will help you see just how special Doug was to those he came in contact with. He always had a smile, and was doing things for others. Hold on to the memories, and know that he is with the Father and has been welcomed with shouts of praise for a job well done. This is not a goodbye, but until we meet again. You and your family are in our prayers in the days to come.

**Matt and Christi Thomason** - November 29, 2011 at 10:21 AM

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“ Doug was a breath of fresh air, always with a smile on his face and a positive attitude. He was part of the Norfolk Southern corporate family and will be missed dearly. May God be with the family and give you strenght during this most challenging time.

**Steve Portnell** - November 29, 2011 at 09:30 AM

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“ Doug Cole was an awesome man...very vibrant for life and full of zeal. I am so saddened by our loss but I am excited that one day we shall see him again. I pray that Mary & family will carry on as he would want you too and just know that God can utilize this hardship for His benefit...somehow, someway!!! The seeds that Doug planted in people will grow by the tears that are shed...many knew him as a man of God and I hope those Doug touched will get to know the Lords love that shined through him. All of our love and prayers.

**Francesca & Kenneth Sweat** - November 28, 2011 at 11:34 PM

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“ My condolences go out to the family. Myself nor my family knew this man personally but we did come upon the accident just as it had happened, before medical personnel arrived. I am so sorry to hear about your loss and will keep the family in our prayers.

**katie** - November 28, 2011 at 11:29 PM



“ Dear Barry and Kathy and family; All of your friends at WesterTidewater Free Clinic, where you serve, are praying for you and your family members in this difficult time. I didn't have the privilege of knowing your brother but I trust you have many loving memories to keep him alive in your hearts and memories forever. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to help. May the peace of God be with you.....

Sincerely, Miriam

**Miriam Beiler** - November 28, 2011 at 11:20 PM

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“ To the Cole Family, we would like for you to know we are so sorry for all of our lost. We will be praying all of you . God .Bless

**linda& George thompson** - November 28, 2011 at 05:27 PM

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“ Mary and family, I am so very saddened by Doug's untimely demise. He was my last partner at the railroad before I retired in 2003 and I really enjoyed working with him. He was a very good family man and a fine Christian, my sons thought a lot of him, he was always so friendly and kind to them. I feel privileged to have known him. May the good Lord comfort you as only he can in this time of loss.

Sincerely,

Maxie T. Blalock, Jr.

**Maxie T. Blalock, Jr.** - November 28, 2011 at 01:20 PM

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“ No words can fill the loss BUT to know Doug is in the Glory of God's Love. Loretta and I give you our support and the promise we are here for you.

Love in Christ

Randy and Loretta O'Dell



“ Mary and Family: The way Doug worked to make the world a better place was inspirational to me. His Norfolk Southern family will miss his leadership and influence. You have my deepest condolences.

Jerri Parks - November 28, 2011 at 12:11 PM

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“ Family of Doug: My heart goes out to you all in your huge loss. I knew Doug through the Railroad. He was such a nice and friendly fun person. I was up in Roanoke in July for the shortline meeting and Doug took me out for a ride. He was so excited about riding through the mtns. I just can't say enough about your husband, father, grandfather. I will keep you in my thoughts and prayers. Tammy

Tammy Henderson - November 28, 2011 at 11:39 AM

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“ My deepest sympathy to all of Doug's family.

Harold Mobley - November 28, 2011 at 10:35 AM

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“ To Doug's loving family,

Doug will be missed very much by his co-workers and all who knew him here at Norfolk Southern. His smile and laughter lit up the office, or the elevator, or the classroom, or wherever we happened to see him.

There are two truths that come to mind when thinking about Doug ... He loved God and loved others (especially his family)! He was a good and faithful servant, and left behind a legacy of grace.

My prayer is that throughout this tough time, you all will feel God's deep love for you through the love and caring of others that He has placed in your paths. I pray that you hear God as He speaks to your hearts, telling you that one day you will see Doug again, and that until that day comes you can rest assured that he is in Very Good Hands.

In His Grace,

Shelley Collins

Shelley Collins - November 28, 2011 at 10:28 AM



“ Doug was blessed with such a warm and uplifting spirit. It was very obvious how much pride Doug took in his entire family. I know Doug and Jonathan through NS.

May God comfort each of you in the memory of what a great family man you were all blessed with.

**Kert Parks** - November 28, 2011 at 09:54 AM

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“ Mary, Garrett, Jonathan, and Maggie, it is with great sympathy that I offer my condolences. Doug was an amazing person and he loved each of you in a very special way. He and I talked often about our families and all I can say is he was so proud to be your husband and your father. Doug made a huge difference in some many peoples' lives, including my own and he will be greatly missed. Please know I share in your loss and wish you comfort, peace and strength through our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Michael Miller** - November 28, 2011 at 09:29 AM

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“ My prayers are with the family at this tragic time. Doug's smile and positive attitude will be missed by his NS family.

**Julian Falls** - November 28, 2011 at 09:28 AM

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“ Maggie,  
You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers at this time of joy and sorrow. Allow Mason to bring joy to your heart and life in memory of your father.  
You are in my heart,  
April

**April English** - November 28, 2011 at 08:42 AM

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“ My thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family. Doug will be missed.

**Sandra Gambrell** - November 28, 2011 at 08:28 AM

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“ Mary, Garrett, Jon, and Maggie, it is with great sympathy that I offer you my condolences. Doug was always a ray of light and joy. He often spoke of you, his beloved family. You are truly blessed to have been able to share your life with him. I will miss his sweet smile here at Norfolk Southern. He was a friend and just a special person to be around. I share in your loss and wish you comfort and peace through your faith, family and friends.

**Lisa Wilson** - November 28, 2011 at 07:52 AM

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“ Mary and Family, My thoughts and prayers are with you. So sorry for your loss. Thinking of you all..

**Pam Houze** - November 28, 2011 at 07:40 AM

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“ I am truly saddened to lose Doug as a friend and counterpart. He will be missed. His beautiful smile and open heart made him special to those who were fortunate to have him in their circle of friends. Please know that he was a friend to everyone that ever came into contact with him. You all are in my prayers.

**Pam Blakeney** - November 28, 2011 at 06:56 AM

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“ My heart goes out to you Mary. You and your family are being thought of and prayed for. May God lift you up and hold you! Love ya.

**Luane Black** - November 27, 2011 at 05:44 PM

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“ Mary, Garrett, Jonathan and Maggie,  
I don't know what to say. I wish words could take away your loss and pain, however, I know they will not. If prayers mean anything, then know that we are send them your way and asking "the God of all Comfort" to be with you at this time.

**Alice & Byron Butler** - November 26, 2011 at 09:23 PM

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“ Mary and the Cole Family,

Our heartfelt condolences to all of you...I can not begin to imagine how you feel, but may the peace and grace our our Lord Jesus Christ be more real as never before in

your time of sorrow. God bless you and we are praying you.

Chris and Heather

**Chris and Heather Wade** - November 26, 2011 at 08:41 PM

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“ It is with great sympathy and sincerity that I extend my condolences. Doug worked closely with me at Norfolk Southern, and served as mentor to me in many ways. His family was the crown jewel of his heart. Please find comfort in knowing that Doug made the world, especially Norfolk Southern, a better place.

My family's prayers are with all of you.

**Derek Bond** - November 26, 2011 at 07:06 PM

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“ Garrett & Amy - I will always remember the beautiful toast given at your wedding, and the kind words spoken by Mr. Douglas. Trust that he is now in heaven, blessing your family with grace and love. Such good people are not lost or forgotten; their memory is shared and their stories told for generations. Love and Hugs, Lily Lewis

**Lily Lewis** - November 26, 2011 at 06:35 PM

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“ Hi,

I just wanted to say that Mr. Cole was such an amazing man. With grace and kindness, he always showed me that and I am so thankful for it. He had such character. It is with a hole in my heart that I see this but I am so truly thankful that I had the chance to know him. His joy and smile were so amazing. I am so happy that he had all of you guys as well. Thank you for letting me see a beautiful, happy, joyous family that was full of the Lord. He was always a great example that I could go back to. And a great man that lived his life and served the Lord.

**Janlatae Mullins** - November 26, 2011 at 11:37 AM

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“ Mary, Maggie & Maurice, Garret & Amy, Jonathan, Mason - We are so sorry for your loss of such a great husband, father, friend. Our prayers are with you during this very trying time in your lives. Doug's smile and kindness will live forever in all those he knew and touched in his lifetime. If you need us we are here for you. May God watch over you all, Love, Jennifer, Jessica & Justin, Anthony & Brittany, Pre, Daisha & Amari



“ My condolences to you Mary and your children and your entire family. You all are in my prayers and may God place his loving hands around your entire family and bring you the comfort that you need in this time of bereavement. Love you and God Bless Liz Staples-Jackson.

**Elizabeth Staples-Jackson** - November 26, 2011 at 09:21 AM

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“ Thinking of you in our thoughts and prayers.

**Chris and Vicki Craighead** - November 26, 2011 at 08:06 AM

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“ God will spread sweet peace and comfort during this time. God has you guys in his arms.Doug will be so missed

**Patsy ,Buddy Clark** - November 26, 2011 at 07:52 AM

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“ Much love to the family. Our prayers are with you.

**John & Mary Weatherley** - November 26, 2011 at 02:48 AM

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“ My heart goes out to to you Mary, Jon, Garrett, and Maggie, and to all the family...may God be with you right now in this sad time...

**Brandon Worthy** - November 26, 2011 at 12:38 AM

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“ There are no words...but there are prayers. I love you all very much and I know that the Lord will be faithful to help you through this time.

**Janet Mushegan Watson** - November 25, 2011 at 11:39 PM

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“ We have lost a wonderful man, full of enthusiasm and joy. Though we mourn his loss, we celebrate his life! He will never be forgotten. Our hearts are so heavy for your family. Prayers are with you during this very difficult time and always. We love you very much.

**Chris & Lisa McKenzie** - November 25, 2011 at 11:21 PM

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“ You only meet a few people in a life time that really bring you joy, Doug Cole was such a man. Doug was full of happiness and life his legacy will live on with us! Until we meet again dear Friend just know we all love you.  
Bishop

**Bishop H. Alan Mushegan** - November 25, 2011 at 10:56 PM

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“ Please accept my condolences on this sad day. Your family is in our thoughts and prayers.

Dan Motley

**Dan L. Motley** - November 25, 2011 at 10:32 PM

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“ Mary, Garrett, Jon, and Maggie we are so deeply saddened by the loss of such a wonderful friend. There are no words to express how much we love Doug and all of you. We will always think of Doug singing out loudly and proudly as part of the angelic choir. Please know you are in our prayers and are here if any need may arise. Love to all, cherita and Giles

**Cherita and Giles Neal** - November 25, 2011 at 03:11 PM

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“ Our thoughts and prayers are with each of you!

**Bill and Betty Gibboney** - November 25, 2011 at 02:17 PM

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“ Mary, Jonathon, Garret, Maggie and all the extended family and friends. Our prayers are with you at this difficult time. Doug loved you all very much and spoke proudly of you on a regular basis. He will be greatly missed by you and also his Norfolk Southern family of co-workers and friends.

May the peace of Christ comfort you and your strong family surround you with love in this difficult time.

**John Hoover** - November 25, 2011 at 02:06 PM