

*In Loving Celebration of*  
**Douglas Robert Harnisch**  
January 27, 1942 – November 27, 2023

**MEMORIAL SERVICE**

First Presbyterian Church, Fargo, North Dakota  
The Rev. Mary Jo E. Holtey, *Officiant* Susan Clambey, *Accompanist*

*\*Please Stand in Body or Spirit*

I am Resurrection and I am Life, says the Lord.  
Whoever has faith in me shall have life,  
even though he die.  
And everyone who has life,  
and has committed himself to me in faith,  
shall not die for ever.

As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives  
and that at the last he will stand upon the earth.  
After my awaking, he will raise me up;  
and in my body I shall see God.  
I myself shall see, and my eyes behold him  
who is my friend and not a stranger.

For none of us has life in himself,  
and none becomes his own master when he dies.  
For if we have life, we are alive in the Lord,  
and if we die, we die in the Lord.  
So, then, whether we live or die,  
we are the Lord's possession.

...Book of Common Prayer

**PRELUDE** *"Air Orchestral Suites in D Major"- J.S. Bach*

**PROCESSIONAL\***

**CALL TO WORSHIP \***

**CONGREGATIONAL HYMN\*** *Be Still, My Soul #819*

**OPENING WORDS AND PRAYER**

**WORDS OF REMEMBRANCE**

Brooke Harnisch, James Charton and Yvonne Petitmaire

**SPECIAL MUSIC:** *"Meditation from Thais" – Jules Massenet*  
Alex Rydell, *Violin* Susan Clambey, *Piano*

**SCRIPTURE READINGS:** Psalm 23  
1 Corinthians 13:1-13  
John 3:16-17

**MESSAGE**

**PRAYER, ending with THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**CLOSING WORDS**

**PRAYER FOR COMMENDATION**

**CONGREGATIONAL HYMN\*** *The Strife is O'er #236*

**BENEDICTION\***

**RECESSIONAL\*** *"Handel - Largo from Xerxes (Ombra Mai Fu)"*

**POSTLUDE**

Douglas Robert Harnisch, 81, lost a valiant battle to the West Nile virus on November 27, 2023 surrounded by his family, friends, and his beloved Lab, Isabelle, under palliative care at Vibra Hospital.

Doug was an intelligent, compassionate, and thoughtful man to family, friends, and strangers alike. He had a wry sense of humor and had a natural ability to mimic personalities and find the amusing aspect in life's foibles.

Doug was born on January 27, 1942, in New York City, New York to Robert Harnisch and Wilhelmina (Hess) Harnisch. He attended City public schools. He was an avid basketball player throughout his formative years from which he was recruited to play Division 1 basketball at Utah State University. Doug majored in microbiology and food science and continued his education earning his Master of Science degree at Kansas State University and completing coursework for a Doctorate at the University of Illinois. In 1969, he joined General Foods Corporation in the Research Department where he worked on coffee technology. In 1980, Doug accepted the position of Director of Research with the American Crystal Sugar Company. He retired in 2013 working for AFLAC.

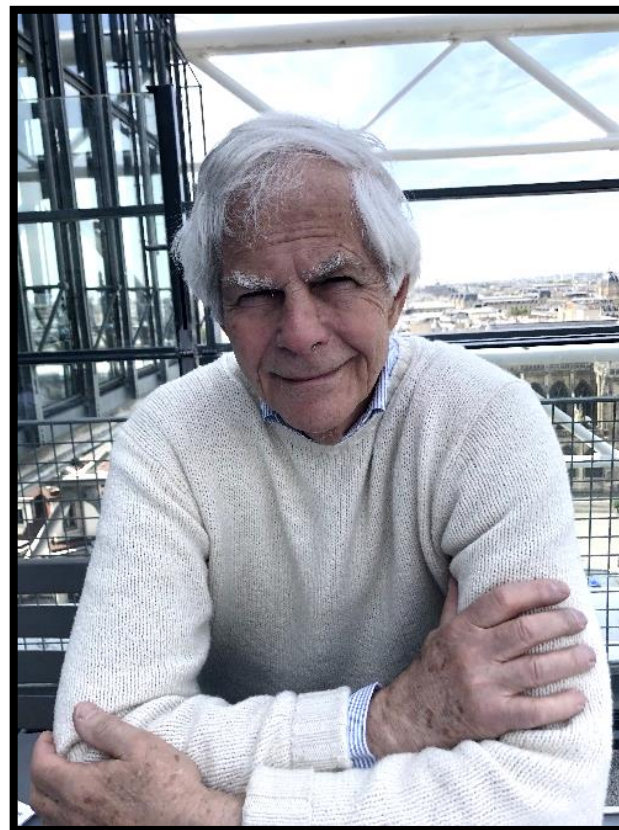
Doug was married to Roberta (Petitmaire) Harnisch on December 22, 1973 in Rye, NY. He was a devoted father to his children, Jennifer, Brooke and John. He thoughtfully listened, counseled, and mentored them throughout their formative years hardly ever missing an important school or family function, game, or meet. He loved all animals, but especially his beloved dogs. His lab, Isabelle, spent the last eight weeks with him at the hospital. Doug was also a plant enthusiast throughout his life. He especially enjoyed propagating orchids, a variety of indoor plants, and his outdoor gardens of forty-plus years.

Doug is survived by his wife, Roberta; his daughter and son-in-law, Brooke Harnisch and Daniel Roberts; his daughter and son-in-law, Jennifer and Michael Verbic; grandchildren, Owen and Luke Roberts, Elizabeth Harnisch, and Michael and Grace Verbic. He also leaves behind his sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Yvonne Petitmaire and James Charton; and nephews, Christopher Charton, and Michael and Richard Gomez.

Doug was preceded in death by his parents, Robert and Wilhelmina Harnisch; parents-in-law, Maurice and Roberta Petitmaire; his son, John Edward Harnisch; and his sister, Margaret Gomez Meany.

The family would like to thank the administration, doctors, nurses, respiratory therapists, CNAs, OT para therapists and any other auxiliary staff at Vibra Hospital and Sanford Health for their expertise, care, compassion, and kindnesses to Doug and his family these many weeks.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations and memorials be made to Sanford Health, Vibra Hospital, 4 Luv of Dog Rescue or Homeward Animal Shelter.



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*And Behold, I am with you always.*

*Matthew 28:20*