



Douglas Ferguson

Jan. 29, 1942 ~ Oct. 19, 2025

Douglas “Doug” Max Ferguson, 83, of Mount Vernon, Oregon, passed away peacefully at his home on October 19, 2025.

Doug was born on January 29, 1942, in Klamath Falls, Oregon, to Max and Irene Ferguson. His brother, Denny, joined the family in 1945. Doug was raised on the King Ranch outside Unity until the family moved to Dayville in 1955.

A proud graduate of Dayville High School, Class of 1960, Doug married his high school sweetheart, Sharon Wyllie, that same year. Together, they raised four children: Lindy, Mitch, Mollee, and Amber. The family also welcomed Brenda Randall (Woodward) into their home as a loving part of the family during her middle school years.

Doug’s lifelong career in engineering and surveying began with the Oregon Department of Transportation in 1961. His professional journey spanned more than six decades and reflected his deep expertise and dedication to Oregon’s communities.

Professional Career:

- Oregon Department of Transportation (1961–1968) — Surveying and construction inspection, including bridge construction.
- U.S. Forest Service (1968–1971) — Design and construction of forest highways, roads, bridges, culverts, and drainage systems.
- Bagett, Griffith & Ferguson (1971–1973) — Principal Engineer responsible for transportation and subdivision infrastructure design, and for drafting and implementing county road standards for Grant County, Oregon.
- Grant County, Oregon (1973–1974) — County Engineer overseeing design and inspection of public works projects.
- Oregon East Engineering, d.b.a. Ferguson Surveying & Engineering (1974–2022) — Founder, President, and Principal Engineer. Doug was the chief designer of numerous civil projects, including water and sewer systems, highways, streets, bridges, and subdivisions.

Professional Registrations:

- Oregon Professional Land Surveyor (PLS 848, 1968)
- Oregon Professional Engineer, Civil (PE 7079, 1971)
- Idaho Professional Engineer, Civil (PE 3194, 1976)
- Washington Professional Engineer, Civil (PE 29375, 1992)

Professional Affiliations:

- American Water Works Association
- Professional Land Surveyors of Oregon
- Professional Engineers of Oregon
- Southeast Area Commission on Transportation (SEACT)
- Oregon Department of Aviation

Doug had a gift for teaching and mentoring, and he took pride in seeing others succeed. He worked closely with his son, Mitch, and with Kenny Delano, who became part of the Ferguson family in every way that mattered. His daughters, Mollee and Amber, were by his side in the office, learning from his example and dedication. The company's success was built not just on Doug's skill, but on the deep love, trust, and respect shared within his work and family circle.

Doug learned to fly while living in La Grande and bought his first Cessna in 1974. Over the years, he owned three planes and found great joy in sharing the sky with others. His love for aviation led him to serve as president of the Search and Rescue Air Team.

A lifelong outdoorsman, Doug was a passionate trapper, hunter, and guide. He led countless unforgettable sheep hunts on McClellan Mountain—a peak he admired daily from his porch on Moon Creek—as well as throughout the Steens Mountains. Never one to shy away from adventure, he even learned to scuba dive and became a licensed Scuba Diving Instructor and a rescue diver.

Doug cherished time with his children, grandchildren, and friends, sharing countless adventures in the mountains, on the water, and under the wide Northwestern sky. His stories—filled with flying, trapping, hunting, boating, and exploring—will be treasured for generations.

On June 25, 2011, Doug married Charlene, his devoted and loving wife of 14 years. Together, they enjoyed boating on the Columbia River, sharing stories, and spending time with friends. Charlene remained faithfully by Doug's side through his final days.

Doug is survived by his beloved wife, Charlene Ferguson, and the mother of their children, Sharon Ferguson; Lindy (Dwayne) Temple; Mitch (Rhonda) Ferguson; Mollee (Joey) Wood; and Amber (Francis-AKA-Buddy) Gast; ten grandchildren; twenty-five great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, November 22, 2025, at 1:00 PM at the Mount Vernon Community

Center, 640 Ingle Street, Mount Vernon, Oregon. A reception will follow at the same location.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association or to the John Day Elks Lodge #1824 through Driskill Memorial Chapel, 241 S. Canyon Blvd., John Day, OR 97845.