



## Douglas Paul Johnston

September 6, 1956 - August 25, 2019

Douglas Paul Johnston, 62, of Chico passed away at Enloe Hospital early Sunday morning August 25, 2019, surrounded by loved ones.

Doug is survived by his daughter Sara Mattz (Donnie Mattz Jr), his fiancée Judy Bedbury, and many loving family members.

Doug has been a mechanic in the area for over four decades. He owned and operated "North Valley Auto Service & Repair" through the 1990's and "Doug Johnston Automotive" since 2005. In his spare time you could find him camping and 4-wheeling in the high lakes or any other beautiful landscape. Everywhere he went he was surrounded by loved ones.

We will be celebrating this amazing man on Saturday, Sept 7 at noon, 3851 Morrow Lane #5. Everyone is welcome to come share their favorite stories and memories, but most of all love for Doug.

"Until we meet again ..."

# Events

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**SEP**   **Celebration of Life**   12:00PM  
**7**

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Doug Johnston Automotive  
3851 Morrow Ln # 5, Chico, CA, US, 95928

# Comments

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“ I’m so sorry for your loss. I’ve been having a problem with my car- I immediately thought of Doug- I just found out he passed. He was always fair- such a good guy. I’m truly saddened.

**jess** - February 10 at 05:05 PM

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“ I've known Doug's kindness since he had the service station on the corner of East Ave and Cohasset. He gave me two brand new tires that he had in the rack and would not take any money for them. As you all know he always had that knack of making you feel special the second you saw him. I still just cannot get this through my heart that he isn't going to greet me with a smile next time I stop by the shop. He always got my smart ass humor and went right along with me with that great laugh I'll miss forever. This world just isn't as bright without Doug here.

**Robbie Herrera** - September 06, 2019 at 03:00 AM

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“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



**David Phelps** - September 04, 2019 at 02:44 PM

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“ Doug was and always will be one of my absolute favorite customers. No matter what kind of day I was having, when he came in, he always made us all laugh and smile. He will truly be missed

Melanie Kendrick  
Kay Jewelers

**Melanie Kendrick** - September 04, 2019 at 01:46 PM



“ Lol... he hated it when I would go in to get my jewelry cleaned. But he loved listening to you sing when you would put it on Facebook..... that girl has some pipes!

**Judy** - September 05, 2019 at 04:54 PM

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“ When I woke up this morning the sun was shining a little less bright since I learned that Doug Johnston had died. I first met Doug almost 30 years ago when the “factory certified” mechanics at an auto dealership in Redding were unable to locate a problem that was causing a severe decrease in gas mileage in my 1988 Mitsubishi van. I don’t know if it was luck or divine guidance that led me to Doug’s shop somewhere off the Skyway. I left my van with him. When I returned he told me he could not find the problem. When I asked how much I owed him, he said, “Nothing, I didn’t fix anything.”

I went back to him and he looked again and through a process of elimination diagnosed a malfunctioning fuel injector, which he replaced. Before calling me, he had the injector tested to make sure that it was defective, which it was. I knew I had found a great mechanic.

Over the years, when one of my family’s older cars broke, I was happy to have an excuse to visit Doug. He never let me down. One time, after inheriting my son’s old Impala, even though I don’t like big cars, I noticed that it was a comfortable ride, so I brought it to Doug on several occasions to have him adjust the engine. The next time I took the Impala for a smog test, the technicians called me out to the bay where they were working on my car and told me they wanted to show me something they had never seen before. They said my old Impala was blowing zeros (no emissions) on their tests and never had they seen a car of this vintage so finely tuned. I immediately drove it over to Doug’s to tell him how proud I was of him. He responded to my praise with his usual humble demeanor.

On another occasion he resurrected my dead 2003 Toyota Corolla, after a lube shop failed to properly attach a radiator hose which resulted in my driving some distance on a hot day with no coolant in my car. After the engine seized-up Doug was doubtful that it would ever start again, but the next day I got a call advising me that the car was running fine, and it still is five years later.

I am saddened by his passing but I believe that all of us who knew and loved Doug should be grateful, in this short life, to have had the good fortune to call Doug Johnston our friend.

With deepest sympathy,  
Roland Lamarine

**Roland Lamarine** - September 02, 2019 at 11:04 PM

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“ Judy and Jim. This is Kat Terrell. Even though I had only been a customer of Doug's for 3 years, I considered him a friend. I had been referred by Craig at Younique Automotive. Best referred I've ever received. Glad I took it.

Please accept my sincere and heartfelt condolences to you both, and to the family. Though I hadn't known Doug long, I will miss him. He was easy to talk to, would explain problems to me, and always had a smile and a happy attitude.

I'd met and would see Judy when I brought my cars into Doug to be worked on. I was delighted in having found a wonderful mechanic I could wholeheartedly trust. He was a sweetheart of a person, funny, and always in a good mood. And, I also got to play with all the dogs - Penelope, Lila, and the Chihuahuas. I'd met Jim on recent visits. It was when I stopped by last week, to let Doug know that I'd be bringing my car in, that Jim met me with heartbreaking news about Doug.

I know words cannot erase the pain that you are currently going through with your loss of Doug. But they do let you know what a sweet, wonderful, and good man he was, and will help ease you through it. He will be greatly missed by the many people whose lives he touched. His legacy will live on in the many memories that so many of us have of him. And that says a lot about a person! I know, as I just lost my husband three months ago too. Those memories are what we now hang onto. And they will sustain you as you traverse this untimely journey that you're now on.

Please do accept offers, help, and love from family and friends as they reach out to you. Their strength will help you get through this. My prayers are with you at this time when you need them most. God, family, and friends will help and sustain you. Let them!

Much love and sympathy, Kat

**Kat Terrell** - September 02, 2019 at 02:42 PM



“ TheGearhart family feel the same as KT wrote,there not much more then you can say about a great guy,an honest man he was.

**Steve Gearhart** - September 02, 2019 at 04:28 PM



“ I didn't have a dad in high school, mine had already passed away - thanks to Sara, I've always kind of had a dad in Doug. I didn't see him a lot throughout life, but the thing is that I only have good memories of the times I did see him. He always made me laugh, from gently making fun of me on the way to taking me and Sara to school (I was incredibly awkward and nerdy) to when I had shitty cars that he fixed for me for almost no money.

As a dad, he was the best. As a mechanic, he was honest and never tried to cheat you. As a person he was very clearly a light in everyone whose life he was in. We're gonna miss him but I know that he lives on in Sara, and I think a little piece of all of us will always be just a little bit snarkier having known him.

**Dani kay** - September 04, 2019 at 12:52 PM



“ I've known Doug for 30 years. First as an employee at the Chevron Station, then as a mechanic and friend. He was always willing to share his advice about anything automotive and encouraged me to work on my own cars more. He was an honest mechanic and great guy with a fun sense of humor. I know he loved his family and his pets. So many people will miss him, I already do. It saddens me to think I can never hear his laughter again. I'm grateful for all the years I knew you Doug, I hope you are at peace wherever you are now.

**Brian Sampson** - September 07, 2019 at 12:48 AM