



## Douglas Highsmith III

April 22, 1970 - April 4, 2024

Douglas Lee Highsmith III of Meriden, CT rested from his earthly labors on April 4, 2024. He was born on April 22, 1970, in Jamaica, Queens New York. Doug was the son of Douglas Lee Jr and Jennifer (Perez) Highsmith of Middletown. He was raised in Middletown, CT, for most of his young life. Doug graduated from Middletown High School in 1988. He was reared and raised up attending Mount Hope FBH Church under Pastor M.E. Young. During his later years he became a member of True Vine Church of Portland, CT. under Pastor Nathaniel Fountain Sr.

Doug worked as a "Direct Support Professional" at Continuum of Care in Meriden CT, where he assisted clients with their everyday needs. Doug really loved the work that he did, and he enjoyed being there for his clients. Doug thrived on helping others to help themselves! Those who really knew Doug would say that he was a people person and loved to help people and he did that until his very last day!

Doug was predeceased by his paternal grandparents Douglas and Jessie (Daniels) Highsmith, maternal grandparents Julius and Catherine (Meachem) Perez, one uncle Julius (Ricky) Perez, and three aunts Carolyn (Leary) Highsmith, Mazie L. Highsmith, and Bernadette (Perez) Ellis. He leaves to cherish his memories, four sons Jaki, Marquise, Douglas IV and Jayden, four daughters Danessa, Lissette, Daisha-Lee and DeeDee, his precious

grandchildren, his three brothers Dario (Monica) Highsmith, Donald (Rhea) Highsmith, and Demont (Tracee) Highsmith, one special uncle, Ron Ellis, his beloved aunts, Yvette, Diane and Margaret, his special cousins, Matthew, Susan, Dwight, Delanna, Donna, Dalisha, Tysean, Renee, Desiree, a host of cousins, too many to name, he loved them all just the same, nieces, nephews, and friends who, he considered to be family too!!!

Douglas Lee Highsmith III aka Lil Doug, D-High, Dougie Fresh, Prince, #12, Jimmy Dixx was an athlete. In his younger years, he played baseball, basketball, and football. Prior to graduation from high school, Doug was voted team captain of the Blue Dragons football team by his teammates, who affectionately called him "My QB" and "My Left-handed QB". In his senior year in 1987, he led the Blue Dragons to a state championship win!!! As an adult, Doug continued his love for sports by paying it forward to the youth in his community. He partnered with the Meriden Boys and Girls Club, coaching several youth sports teams for many years. He was also the founder and director of Phase 12, a program that provided after-school activities and sports for children from low-income families. Coach Doug touched the hearts and lives of countless numbers of young athletes by encouraging them to never give up until they reached their goals and he then encouraged and helped them to set new goals for themselves. Coach Doug's passion for helping to foster a love for sports in children is something that will never be forgotten.

# Previous Events

## Calling Hours

APR 19. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

First Baptist Church  
93 Main Street  
Middletown, CT 06457

## Funeral Service

APR 19. 11:00 AM (ET)

First Baptist Church  
93 Main Street  
Middletown, CT 06457

# Tribute Wall

MB

“*Doug always treated me like a little brother. Soo many memories from my childhood were with him. I still look back fondly to this day and will miss him dearly. My heart goes out to the Highsmiths.*

*-Mike B.*

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**MIKE B** - April 19, 2024 at 05:45 PM

DP

“*With Deepest sympathy to Uncle Doug, Aunt Jen, Damont, Dario, Donald, their beautiful wives, children, Highsmith Family! May GOD keep all of you comforted through this difficult time! Love always Delanna (Perez) Chambers and Donna (Perez) Shah.*

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**Delanna Perez-Chambers** - April 18, 2024 at 06:08 PM

DP

“*Doug (Cuzzo), I am truly grateful to GOD to have been blessed to have had some time spent in getting to know you cuz enough to know, you are a caring, loving, hard working and fun person. I remember back in 2022, out of blue you texted me saying: I love you cuzzo! That was just the kind of person you are! Rest In Peace, I love you! Delanna Perez-Chambers*

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**Delanna Perez-Chambers** - April 18, 2024 at 06:01 PM

MR

“*Margie Rossignolw planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Douglas Highsmith III.*

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**Margie Rossignolw** - April 18, 2024 at 02:01 PM

MR

“ Margie Rossignolw purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Douglas Highsmith III.



Margie Rossignolw - April 18, 2024 at 02:01 PM

JJ

“ I remember when you played your last softball game in Middletown maybe 20 years ago you told my son you were retiring and you gave him your bat until this day he still has it may you rest easy my friend

jan Jackson - April 17, 2024 at 01:18 PM

EJ

D12 - you'll definitely be missed. You were my other big brother that always looked out for me whenever we seen each other. Every time we would leave work you say "I love you EDub!" And I would respond I LOVE YOU TOO!!!



Eric James - April 19, 2024 at 01:03 PM

CI

“ Continuum of Care, Inc. purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Douglas Highsmith III.



Continuum of Care, Inc. - April 17, 2024 at 01:14 PM

TF

“ We uplift the family in our Prayers 🙏

*With Love! From the Cunningham and James family*



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**The Cunningham and James Family** - April 17, 2024 at 07:03 AM

ET

“ MY CONDOLENCES TO DOUGLAS FAMILY, CHILDREN AND EVERYONE WHO KNEW HIM. HE WILL BE FOREVER MISSED. HE IS NOW IN PEACE WITH OUR FATHER GOD. R.I.P.

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**ELIZABETH TORRES** - April 16, 2024 at 02:27 PM