

Police Chief Douglas L. Knight (1951 - 2018)

Douglas was born January 3, 1951 in Bellefontaine, Ohio to Lawrence S. and Martha Ellen (Miller) Knight.

Doug began his law enforcement career with the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office. He then became a campus Police Officer for the Ohio State University.

Officer Knight joined the Vandalia Division of Police as a road patrol officer in 1979. He was promoted to Sergeant and then Deputy Chief, both in 1984.

During 1986, Deputy Chief Knight accepted the same position for the University of Cincinnati Police Department.

He then returned to Vandalia as Police Chief in 1988. He also acted as interim City Manager.



During his career, Chief Knight earned an undergraduate degree in criminal justice at the University of Dayton and a Master of Arts degree from Central Michigan University, majoring in management and supervision. He graduated from the FBI National Academy and Police Executive Leadership College and was a Certified Law Enforcement Executive (CLEE).

Chief Knight served as president of the Montgomery County Association of Police Chiefs, chairman of the Montgomery County Criminal Justice Policy Board & Council, vice chairman of the Criminal Justice Training Center Advisory Board at Sinclair Community College, and president of the Ohio and International Associations of Chiefs of Police. He was an assessor and team leader of the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies and currently its commissioner. He served the board of the Law Enforcement Foundation and as an advisory member of the Ohio Supreme Court's Futures Commission and Domestic Violence Task Force.

Within his community, he served as president of the Vandalia Lions Club, Trustee Emeritus of the Vandalia-Butler Foundation, Past-President of the St. Christopher Church Pastoral Council, and member of the Vandalia-Butler Chamber of Commerce, Vandalia-Butler Historical Society, and Policy Development Team with the Vandalia-Butler Board of Education. During 2002, Chief Knight was awarded the David L. Sabec Award for Outstanding Community Service, along with the Roll of Recognition Honor from the Vandalia-Butler City Schools. He was an active parishioner of St. Christopher Catholic Church in Vandalia.

By 2018, Chief Knight had served his communities as a law enforcement for 42 years and as Chief for 30. He died unexpectedly on April 13, 2018 at the age of 67.

He was predeceased by his father. Chief Knight is survived by his mother; wife of 40 years, Colleen (Sherry) Knight; Children, Stephen (Danielle Sipe) Knight and Erin (Chris) Griffith; granddaughters, Lacie Griffith and Lily Griffith; and brothers, Jim (Karen) Knight and Mark (Darlene) Knight.

Visitation will be held 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, April 18, 2018 at [St. Christopher Church](#) at 435 E. National Road. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 19, 2018 with Fr. John Tonkin officiating. Interment will follow at [Polk Grove Cemetery](#).

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that you donated to the Doug L. Knight Memorial Fund, c/o the Vandalia-Butler Foundation in his honor.