



David Michael Emge

September 9, 1946 - January 20, 2024

David Michael Emge, 77, of Evansville, passed away Saturday, January 20, 2024 at the West River Health Campus.

David was born September 9, 1946 in Evansville to the late Richard Andrew and Gertrude Mary (Wipf) Emge. He was a member of the Boy Scout Troop at Sacred Heart and a proud Eagle Scout. David studied drama at the University of Evansville and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree. While attending U of E, David was drafted into the United States Army and served during the Vietnam War. David began his acting career on stage at the Pittsburgh Playhouse in 1971 and made his film debut in the lowbrow comedy "The Booby Hatch". He briefly lived in Washington, D.C., where he performed in dinner theatre. In 1976, he moved to New York City. He was working as a chef in New York when he was cast as the helicopter pilot, Stephen, in George Romero's, "Dawn of the Dead". He was also cast in two other movies, "Basket Case 2" and "Hellmaster".

Surviving David are three sisters, Sue (Bob) Berry, Kathleen (Bob) Wittgen and Barbara (Allen) Rexing and many nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews.

In addition to his parents, Dave was preceded in death by sisters, Sr. Judith Emge, OSB and Mary Pat Smead and brothers, Charles, Richard, Walter,

Melvin Emge and by and infant brother, Wayne Emge.

There will be a Mass of Christian Burial held at 11:00 AM on Wednesday, January 24, 2024 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church. Burial will follow in St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery.

Friends may visit with the family from 10:00 AM until service time on Wednesday at Sacred Heart Church, 2701 W. Franklin Street.

David's family extends a special thank you to the staff of West River Health Campus, especially Miranda, for all of their kind and considerate care.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Mater Dei High School, 1300 Harmony Way, Evansville, IN 47720.

Condolences may be made online at www.pierrefuneralhome.com.

Cemetery Details

St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery

2500 Mesker Park Drive
Evansville, IN

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 24. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
2701 W. Franklin Street
Evansville, IN

Mass of Christian Burial

JAN 24. 11:00 AM (CT)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
2701 W. Franklin Street
Evansville, IN

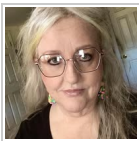
Tribute Wall

BS

“ *RIP David Emge. Love your performance in DOTD. Thank you for playing Flyboy so well and thank you for your service to your country.* ”



Brian Sheridan - February 16 at 09:00 PM



“ *Oh how I hope David's family knows how much us fans LOVED David! He played Flyboy perfectly! How I wish I could have met David! I woulve been starstruck forever! I'll never forget being catatonic all night and couldn't sleep the night I watched DOTD the first time in 1980, my 19 year old Alabama girl brain just couldn't get over the shocking scenes! I loved all 4 characters but I felt Flyboy would have been the most comforting character to be next to had I been a character in that situation, because he was the most imperfect and perfect character. So flawed, so human, yet so sweet, handsome and sexy! He was the complete package. I have to imagine David was a lot like his character. This world's loss is Heaven's gain. Fly High Flyboy! We love you!* ”

Teresa Barton - August 29, 2025 at 09:57 PM

RW

“ *Rest in peace to our Flyboy.* ”



Rodney Williams - January 04, 2025 at 07:26 PM

DH

“ R.I.P Flyboy :-(

Darrell Howland - July 06, 2024 at 10:52 PM

LV

“ *When I went to the Monroeville Mall for the first time to see the Living Dead Museum I fell in love with Flyboy Zombie when I saw his pictures on the museum's walls. He was so great in Dawn of the Dead! I unfortunately never met him in person. In 2025 I am going to visit his grave and put some roses there. RIP David Emge. I love you. Linda Vann of Ithaca NY.*

Linda Vann - April 05, 2024 at 08:08 PM

BJ

“ *Last night at the SAG awards (Screen Actors Guild) David Emge was remembered.*



Bob & Jessica - February 25, 2024 at 04:47 PM

E.

“ *E.M. lit a candle in memory of David Michael Emge*



E.M. - February 21, 2024 at 07:43 PM

JO

“ *Absolute Legend. Be at peace.* ”



Jonathan - February 13, 2024 at 03:27 PM

DP

“ *This was the noblest Hoosier of them all. David Emge was our pal. He was honest, humane, sensitive and always kind. He made his home town and his profession proud everytime he “tread the boards”. My wife Marsha and I, acted with Dave over many years at theatres around the country. We met at the American College Theatre Festival where Dave lead the cast from U of I, Evansville, as Moliere’s IMAGINARY INVALID. Our friendship spanned many years of work, joy, and camaradery in New York City. It was so perfect that his family would lead his list of accomplishments with the fact that he was an Eagle Scout. The rank of Eagle Scout stands for excellence of character and achievement. Eagle Actor?! Dave would have won a uniform full of merit badges. David Emge was our buddy and a delight to know and share the stage with. To David’s family; we join with you in your sorrow and we will keep you in our prayers. May flights of Angels sing thee to thy rest. Fly on Flyboy.* ”

Dennis and Marsha Predovic, New York

Dennis Predovic - February 02, 2024 at 09:18 PM

RO

“ I got to meet you at a convention many years ago. Rest easy sir you are a legend in the genre. My best to the family. you are in our thoughts.



Rob - February 01, 2024 at 12:12 PM

KP

“ RIP David Emge. You did a fantastic job as Flyboy in Dawn of the Dead. In a way, you also helped introduce me to the zombie genre. Fly high Flyboy. You earned it.

Kyle P - January 30, 2024 at 05:13 PM

KP

My only regret is that I never got the chance to meet you in person.

Kyle P - January 30, 2024 at 05:15 PM

LM

“ Stay golden, Flyboy.

Lee Miller - January 30, 2024 at 08:36 AM

JJ

“ Thank you David(aka Flyboy) for your wonderful memories in Dawn of the Dead, besides your many other bodies of work. Deepest sympathy and condolences to your family and friends.

Jim - January 28, 2024 at 07:16 PM

SC

“ You will never be forgotten, Mr. Emge!
I hope you knew how important you are to film and more importantly
the horror genre of film.

God bless you and thank you for making me a fan of zombies with
your masterful performances!

#Flyboy

Scott - January 28, 2024 at 07:07 PM

DC

“ David (Flyboy) Emge Thank you for all the great memories you
made in film.
Dawn of the dead will always be one of my favorite movies. You
were one of the reasons it still is. I wish I could have met you, rest in
peace David. And God bless you.
Daniel Carusone Albany NY

Daniel Carusone - January 27, 2024 at 08:27 PM

JJ

“ You brought so much joy to so many.

J Jimenez - January 27, 2024 at 04:31 PM



“ David is an icon in the genre film community and will never be
forgotten. Thank you for the memories, Flyboy. I hope the family
finds some comfort in knowing how much David meant to so many
people.

Troy Seibert - January 27, 2024 at 11:07 AM

KH

“ Nothing but blue skies from here on out, Flyboy. Thanks for the memories.

Kelly Hudson - January 26, 2024 at 05:38 PM

DM

“ Horror fans will always remember David Emge. We love you, Flyboy.

Damascus Mincemeyer - January 26, 2024 at 03:02 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of David Michael Emge.



January 26, 2024 at 11:07 AM

SR

“ Stephen R. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of David Michael Emge.

Stephen R. - January 26, 2024 at 11:07 AM

DB

“ I was 14 in 1979 when Dawn of the Dead came to a local theater as a midnight movie. My parents had dropped me and a friend off at the theater for a showing of Creature From the Black Lagoon but having seen that so many times we decided to sneak into DOTD even though we figured to be thrown out. Luckily for us we managed to stay for the movie. It was and is one of the only horror films to completely terrify me and David performance was a huge part of that. The elevator scene still haunts me as one of the scariest and saddest moments from any film I have seen. I watch the movie every year at Halloween and I still will but along with the scares and laughs this year will bring a bit of sadness as well.

douglas barnett - January 26, 2024 at 10:38 AM

VT

“ I was lucky to have the opportunity to meet David Emge several times over the years at conventions. He was always kind and gracious with his fans. The impact he made in horror movies will never be forgotten. My condolences to his family and friends. Thank you for sharing his memory with us. RIP



Victoria Timpanaro - January 26, 2024 at 09:33 AM

WP

“ Thank you for allowing me to be apart of the service. David was an ICON in the horror community and he will be greatly missed.

Will Phelps - January 26, 2024 at 08:08 AM

FR

“ Dawn of the dead was really good, and you were really good at driving that helicopter!
To the family: Im so sorry for your loss.
-Francis (age 10)

francis - January 25, 2024 at 10:19 PM

SS

“ Eagle Scout, Vietnam veteran, chef, and star of one of the most famous horror films ever made. He will truly be remembered. My heartfelt condolences to his family and friends.

Steven F. Scharff - January 25, 2024 at 12:33 PM

LK

“ David will forever be iconic to fans of George A. Romero's Dawn of the Dead as the character of Flyboy. Like most fans I was fortunate enough to meet him a few times over years at conventions and he was always a gentleman and loved to share stories from the film. My sincerest condolences to his family and loved ones. Rest in Peace, David. Say hi to George for all of us.

Lee Karr - January 24, 2024 at 03:10 PM

GB

“ So sorry for the loss and he was a pleasure to be around prayers be with the family

Ginger Barr - January 24, 2024 at 11:58 AM

BE

“ David was my student teacher at Bosse High School. The day he walked into class, I could not believe it. I had seen every one of his shows at the University of Evansville and was, even as a young teen, amazed at his incredible and many talents. I even kept some of his reviews...IMAGINARY INVALID directed by John David Lutz and its journey to the first American College Theatre Festival.

David was beautiful man.

Even as an 18 year old I knew he didn't really want to be a teacher...regardless, so thrilled he was in the classroom. He shared stories about Vietnam Nam, marriage, other actors...all of which I had seen perform on the UE stage. He talked about his absolute love of theatre. But even as he spoke of this love, to me, he always seemed to wear a coat of melancholy, which he kept tightly buttoned up.

My pivotal memory of David was the final day of class.

The drama class had arranged a farewell party for David. Punch..chips...cookies...music and dancing. All the really popular girls were in my class. They all swarmed around David hoping he would ask them to dance. I was sitting in the corner by myself. All of a sudden the swarm parted, David walked over to me! And asked me to dance. I about passed out. But I bravely swallowed all fears and self doubt, stood up, he bowed, and we danced. I have relived that moment many many times in my life. Whether his gesture was out of pity, caring, or embracing a young girl who loved the arts, it really doesn't matter to me...then or now. My dance with David Emge was magic.

You never know when you might touch the heart of another human being or the enormous impact you might have in their lives.

David had that impact on my heart and in my life. He was my champion and I will be eternally grateful.

I later performed in civic shows with his sister Paula. She was, as well, a wonderful performer. So funny and creative. I wish her and her family my sincere condolences and love.

With love and gratitude. Beth Litherland Turcotte

BethTurcotte - January 24, 2024 at 11:31 AM

LA

“ We were friends of his sisters, Mary Pat, Sue and Kathy. I believe he played the drums. Our thoughts, prayers and condolences go out to his family and many friends. Vaya con Dios, mi amigo! PAX TECUM, David! Leonard "Larry" R. and Carolyn R. Adams

Leonard R. Adams - January 24, 2024 at 10:40 AM

RC

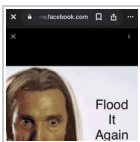
“ Sorry to hear that he passed he was in one of my favorite movies Dawn of the dead

Robin Coykendall - January 24, 2024 at 10:23 AM

MZ

“ I hope David's friends and family can find peace and comfort. His work was a source of inspiration and pleasure in my life and in the lives of so many others. Thank you for everything, Mr. Emge

Mike Zawacki - January 24, 2024 at 10:22 AM



“ I'm so sorry for the loss of David, I hope you can find comfort in this untimely event, may the Lord bless David and his family and friends



Robert Payne - January 23, 2024 at 09:27 PM

RB

“ David's death is mourned by his many friends and particularly those of us who have known and loved him for decades. I remember exactly the first time I met David. It was in a NYC theater lobby after the premiere of *Dawn of the Dead* in 1978 and the last time, as he left New York to return to Indiana in September 2018. Over those forty years we were friends, work colleagues, and hospital buddies for each other. We criss-crossed between finance work and film production. In various jobs we found ourselves sailing, driving and working in offices, but he always provided wry commentary and was a co-worker you could always lean on.

I knew about his acting career - often fans approached him on the street wanting an autograph and picture and he always graciously obliged. David's kind and gentlemanly manner - both self-contained and self-effacing - was only occasionally belied by his impatience with foolish or hypocritical behavior. His rants were impressive - both forceful and very funny. Usually, David's dry sense of humor was as understated as he was. A legend in the horror film community, he brought his acting skills to a wide range of film, television, and theater roles. He also performed as a drummer and was passionate about music and early film comedians, particularly Buster Keaton and Stan Laurel. Finally, I will remember David's three classic phrases; "Too many props", "That sounds like something you should talk to the chaplain about" and "It comes in a glass"

We will all miss you David.

Bob Chapman & Jess Bendiner

Robert Chapman & Jess Bendiner - January 23, 2024 at 06:43 PM

JB

Sorry to be a late comment, but I just learned of David's passing. We were in drama together at UE, sharing classes and a couple of plays, including "Hamlet." At the 50th reunion of that play, Sam Smiley (recently deceased) said to me: "All of these terrific talents emerged from Evansville communities — John David Lutz, Ron Glass, Marcia Bennett, Dave Emge, Gary Bayer" Nice tribute.

At some point, Dave and I realized we were related by marriage; his father and my uncle Emil Emge were brothers. He knew my aunt and cousins well.

After Dave returned to Evansville, i called him from time to time (I live in Charleston, SC) and planned to visit him. The pandemic hit and the opportunity was lost. I have prayed for him often since then and pray now that God's grace has brought him home. Rest in Peace, Cousin.

Jerry Brown - February 07, 2024 at 02:18 PM

JK

“ *My sincere condolences, you will live on in film and our memories. I just showed my kid Dawn of the dead for the first time ever, and she loved it.*

She said it was 10/10.

Thank you.

Jase Kiana - January 23, 2024 at 06:32 PM

BR

“ *My condolences to Mr. Emge's family and loved ones. His work with Mr. Romero stands out and will be a part of his lasting legacy. He got to play cool, sensitive, and finally terrifying all in one role. No one could have done it better.*

Brad - January 23, 2024 at 03:33 PM



“ *Thanks David, for being part of one of the great zombie flicks of all time. I rewatch Dawn a few times a year and I'll enjoy a memorial screening today. Be at peace.*

T - January 23, 2024 at 01:33 PM

IP

Just to say it was an extraordinarily good performance and awardworthy

Ian Powell - January 23, 2024 at 01:59 PM

WL

“ *Dawn of the Dead is more than a movie, it is part of my childhood, and just like an old album you play over and over and never get tired of. David may be gone (RIP), but he is immortalized in film forever. He will be missed. From a grateful fan, -W Lloyd-*

Will Lloyd - January 23, 2024 at 01:09 PM

DE

“ *RIP Flyboy*

Dean - January 23, 2024 at 01:08 PM

NB

“ *My family and I, who are also native Hoosiers, are sorry to hear of David's passing. Like many leaving tributes, we know him from Dawn. My sister and I had the pleasure of meeting him at a convention in 2006; he was kind and gracious and I'm glad I had the opportunity to meet him.*

May his memory be a blessing.

*Nick
Washington, D.C.*

Nick Baker - January 23, 2024 at 12:27 PM



“ A grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of David Michael Emge.

January 23, 2024 at 11:45 AM



“ Rip thank you for my child hood and playing in my favorite zombie movie rip flyboy



David Emshwiller - January 23, 2024 at 11:08 AM



“ Our Sincere Condolences to the Emge Family ,from Thomas Emge Family. David will missed.

Dan Emge - January 23, 2024 at 11:01 AM



“ Captain Christopher Szymanski purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of David Michael Emge.



Captain Christopher Szymanski - January 23, 2024 at 09:08 AM

MG

“ To the family and friends of David Emge. My condolences on your loss. Please know that for millions of people, myself included, Mr. Emge has a special place in our hearts for his wonderful performance in "Dawn of the Dead." He brought joy to the world, which is a great thing. -- Michael Gurwitz, Silver Spring, MD.

Michael Gurwitz - January 23, 2024 at 08:47 AM

LK

“ My sincere sympathy to the EMGE family. Besides being a veteran, an iconic actor, and a NYC resident, Dave was aMD graduate and made a lasting mark as one of the best Drum Majors.
“Well done good and faithful servant”

linda koressel - January 23, 2024 at 08:42 AM

SB

“ Rest well Flyboy.

Scott Brown - January 23, 2024 at 08:31 AM

BR

“ I had the privilege of interviewing David as well as visiting him at several shows over the years. Quiet, easygoing, funny and self-effacing, he seemed to exhibit the qualities you hope to find when meeting one of your heroes. I was blessed to spend a little time with him and will always be thankful that I may have had a small glimpse as to his real-life persona. He probably never completely grasped how many lives he touched - odd that his dark and unusual films could generate so much goodwill and genuine fellowship. I hope he found a measure of happiness in his brief life, as it seemed only fair, since he was responsible for creating so much himself.

God Bless you, brother. An honor to share this moment in time with you. To describe his life and work, I have to default to another classic film and add, 'David Emge's life...was the stuff dreams are made of.'

Brian Ridgway
Grand Rapids, MI

Brian Ridgway - January 23, 2024 at 02:12 AM

DB

“ Met David at West River and looked forward to seeing him every Wednesday when we brought him Communion from St. Philips parish. He always gave us a good laugh with his comments. RIP special friend 🙏

Debbie Bartlett - January 23, 2024 at 01:04 AM

ZT

“ So sorry to hear about his passing. Dawn of the Dead was an iconic movie and David will always have his legion of fans, probably more than he will ever know, who loved the movie. His performance was wonderful. He forever helped changed the genre. Peace and love be with his friends and family during this difficult time. Say, hello to George for us. We miss him and we'll miss you. Soar high, "Flyboy."

Zane Thomas - January 23, 2024 at 12:40 AM

GR

“ My deepest condolences to those loved ones who are affected by the loss of David.

Though I never met him personally, through his acting and talent myself and countless others were influenced and entertained. David had many adoring fans and his legacy will live on for ages to come, he will always be our lovable Fly-boy.

He will be greatly missed, rest easy sir.



Gregory Reinert - January 22, 2024 at 11:36 PM

FE

“ He change the lfiie of a french teenager a long time ago who discover cinema. Thanks forever, he never be forgotten.

Ferdy - January 22, 2024 at 09:40 PM

FL

“ My deepest and sincere condolences to Mr. Emge's family and friends. Thank you for performance in the greatest movie ever made.

Flyboy - January 22, 2024 at 08:50 PM

RD

“ So sad to hear this news. I attend many conventions and was lucky enough to meet David a couple times. He was a very nice man. I grew up near the Monroeville mall and have been there many times, before and after the movie was made. Flyboy is a character that will live forever in the horror world. Rest in Peace

Rich D. - January 22, 2024 at 08:33 PM

AJ

“ Fly home Fly-Boy!

Aaron Jordan - January 22, 2024 at 08:25 PM

BC

“ Watched Dawn of the Dead for the millionth time yesterday and I wake up to this horrible news. Rest In Peace, Flyboy

Ben Cutler - January 22, 2024 at 08:00 PM

JK

“ Jonathan K. lit a candle in memory of David Michael Emge



Jonathan K. - January 22, 2024 at 07:31 PM

JK

“ Rest easy Flyboy. You will be missed by many. Godspeed David Emge.

Jonathan K. - January 22, 2024 at 07:30 PM

JH

“ Although I never met David, he feels like a dear old friend from my countless viewings of Dawn of the Dead. His performance is marvelous, and his contribution to the film is incalculable. There are thousands of others who feel likewise. Dawn . . . Is an American masterpiece and will live forever. Mr. Emge has my deepest respect, and my heart goes out to his loved ones. Godspeed, Flyboy.

Justin Humphreys - January 22, 2024 at 06:25 PM

CH

“ rest in peace Mr. Emge--I wish I could have met you in person, you seemed like a very nice person with a great sense of humor and kindness. My condolences to his friends and family. I know he'll be missed.

Charles - January 22, 2024 at 06:21 PM

DA

“ Riposa in pace grandissimo “Flyboy”. Grazie per la tua splendida interpretazione che ti ha reso immortale. Sentite condoglianze alla famiglia.

Daniele - January 22, 2024 at 06:12 PM

RC

“ I offer my deepest condolences to David’s family and friends. I’m so sorry for your loss.
I only got to meet David one time but the thrill of seeing one of the main cast members from one of my all time favorite movies has stayed with me since. He was a warm, kind, and funny guy. We exchanged a humorous moment while at a filming location and he shared a story that still has me laughing. Rest easy, Flyboy. You’ll be missed but never forgotten.

Robert Carlson - January 22, 2024 at 06:12 PM

PH

“ I'm really sorry for the loss
Now, FlyBoy flies in a beautiful and peaceful place without no pain.
All my condolences to his family and friends.

Philippe - January 22, 2024 at 06:06 PM

VG

“ David was a dear friend of my husband's and served as best man at our wedding. I had the pleasure of working with him in UE theatre. I am so very sorry for your loss.

Vella Goebel - January 22, 2024 at 06:02 PM

BE

“ David you are and always will be a hero to those of us who grew up with Flyboy. So much love and respect for you and thank you for making the mall safe for all your fans. Ben, England.

Benjamin - January 22, 2024 at 05:36 PM

TJ

“ What a tremendous loss to his family and friends and the countless fans who admired him. His legacy will live on forever in film. Rest and Fly high Flyboy! Deepest condolences to his family.

Todd Jara - January 22, 2024 at 05:17 PM

DS

“ Thank you so much for sharing your talent with so many fans, young and old. You will never be forgotten.

Dave Spencer - January 22, 2024 at 05:11 PM

FE

“ *Many condolences and love to your family. Thank you for giving us all great memories to fill our childhood and beyond. You cemented for most of us an unforgettable character in an unforgettable work of art. You will be missed. Thank you.*

Felicia - January 22, 2024 at 04:58 PM

JA

“ *Very sad news about David. His acting in DOTD was superb and unforgettable. I was sitting at the hotel bar during the 35th anniversary convention for DOTD in Monroeville. I saw David across the bar drinking a Heineken. I had the bartender send him another Heineken and David gave me a wave of thanks and a smile. Deepest sympathy to family and friends.*

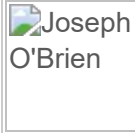
John Ando - January 22, 2024 at 04:54 PM

TC

“ *I regrettably never had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Emge, nor any of the other DotD cast, but Dawn was an important movie in my life starting as a child of the 70s/80s and remains my all-time #1 film.*

But I'm sure that he and his family would prefer that we also remember him not only as a horror icon but as a person, and by all accounts he was a very good guy who lived a full life. Sending my sincere love and respect.

tc - January 22, 2024 at 04:32 PM



“ *Condolences to the family on their loss. David's work as an actor is timeless and unforgettable. He made an indelible mark on the world of cinema, and lives on forever in the hearts and minds of generations of horror fans. Thank you for everything, David. Rest in peace.*

Joseph O'Brien - January 22, 2024 at 04:19 PM



“ *David was the best patrol leader a Tenderfoot could have. He was the perfect role model and example of what Scouting should be. My condolences to Kathy and the rest of the family.*

Bill Hausmann - January 22, 2024 at 04:05 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of David Michael Emge.*



January 22, 2024 at 04:03 PM



“ *Thanks for taking the time to be cool with me and sign a few things. Your Flyboy performance was historic and you'll never be forgotten. May you rest in peace.*

Brian Apodaca - January 22, 2024 at 03:47 PM



“ *Rest in peace Flyboy!*

Antoine Labbé - January 22, 2024 at 03:44 PM

FG

“ *Rest in Peace David.....My childhood was great with FlyBoy
....Condolences to your family*

Francesco Guerrazzi - January 22, 2024 at 03:42 PM

PF

“ *Flyboy. What more can be said? An absolute iconic performance in
George A. Romero's Dawn Of The Dead. He will be dearly missed
by millions of fans worldwide. Thank You for the memories David!
Rest easy.*

Paul Favour - January 22, 2024 at 03:26 PM

MA

“ *Just wanted to say thank you for being one of the main reasons I
got into horror as a kid. Dawn legit changed my life, and Flyboy was
a big reason for that. One of the most iconic zombies of all time, in
the best zombie movie of all time. You will never be forgotten,
David! Condolences to your family, and Rest In Peace*

Mark - January 22, 2024 at 03:15 PM

RB

“ *My deepest sympathy to David's family at this sad time. I will miss
you David and always will remember our meetings in the U.K. Rest
in peace my friend.*

Richard Booth - January 22, 2024 at 03:11 PM

AD

“ *Our deepest sympathies to the family of David Emge. He will be
remembered and celebrated.*

Aaron DeSpain - January 22, 2024 at 02:48 PM

AJ

“ thanks for the great performance in DOTD. godspeed

Ajmal - January 22, 2024 at 02:31 PM

BC

“ Thank you for being a part of my childhood memories! Loved seeing you as fly boy!

Brian Church - January 22, 2024 at 02:21 PM

MP

“ I bow my head to one man who gave great character to a film that I have enjoyed since I was 14 years old. Thank you, David. We miss you. You made me very happy as a kid and filled my world with joy every year.

Mike Pesch - January 22, 2024 at 02:20 PM

JF

“ Rest in Peace David. You are loved and will be missed by the countless fans who enjoyed your work in the movies. Godspeed Flyboy. My condolences to the family.

Joseph Friar - January 22, 2024 at 01:35 PM

SK

“ Thank you for everything David, it means more than you will ever know. Rest in peace.

Scott K. - January 22, 2024 at 01:30 PM



“ I want to say thank you for being part of the movie that captured my imagination as a kid and drove me in so many different creative directions.

Jack Valentine - January 22, 2024 at 12:50 PM

PA

“ David, thank you for being such a great actor playing Stephen “Fly Boy” in the original DOTD. For some reason as a kid I always felt comfort watching that film. As an adult I appreciate what you all made back then. Your legacy shall live on. Condolences to you and the family from Paul in the UK 🙏🇬🇧

Paul Alland - January 22, 2024 at 12:41 PM

PA

Sorry, that was meant to say condolences to your family. 🙏

Paul Alland - January 22, 2024 at 12:42 PM

CD

“ My family had the pleasure of meeting David a few times. He was a friendly and lovely man. We send our condolences to David's family and friends.
Maybe he rest in peace.
Fly high "Fly Boy" 💔



Caroline Doherty - January 22, 2024 at 11:54 AM

MW

“ Rest in peace, Fly boy! My condolences to his friends and family. He will be missed.

Michael Wlodarczyk - January 22, 2024 at 11:45 AM

JM

“ Rest in peace, David Michael Emge❤️
Thank you for all the movie memories in George A. Romero's Dawn Of The Dead. One of my all time favorite movies ever. You made the zombie walk so iconic and memorable in that film. You and the cast made atmospheric movie magic. Forever my favorite film and my inspiration to become a movie maker myself.
Much love from Norway❤️

Jan André Marthins - January 22, 2024 at 11:28 AM

TD

We met a few Times over the years David thank you for the memories....Rest in peace my friend.

Thomas Patrick Doherty - January 22, 2024 at 11:35 AM

BK

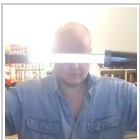
David Emge for ever❤️

Bouchaib El Khayrat - January 22, 2024 at 12:32 PM

KS

“ You made movie history that will never fade. You will be remember forever. RIP

Kevin Sheats - January 22, 2024 at 11:28 AM



“ You made movie history no one will ever forget. Thank you so much.

David Fullam - January 22, 2024 at 11:19 AM

AH

“ *Watching Dawn right now, in memory of. My condolences to the entire family. Thank you for being a major reason Dawn will always be the top zombie movie. You will be missed!*

Andrew Hooper - January 22, 2024 at 10:59 AM



“ *Rest in peace fly boy. David was one of the fab four in a horror film we fans love., call Dawn of the Dead. Rest in peace.*

Peter De La Rosa - January 22, 2024 at 10:40 AM

AN

“ *I've watched Dawn of the Dead for the first time back in 1986 and I've seen it countless times since. I'll always remember seeing Flyboy coming out of that elevator. With his glare and his walk he transformed into the living dead and lead the other zombies to Peter and Fran. As a 9 year old kid I never saw anything like that and I was hooked on Romero zombies ever since. RIP David "Flyboy" Emge you will be missed.*

ANTHONY - January 22, 2024 at 10:36 AM



“ *I never got to meet David, but had long since hoped to do so. I suspect even he was a little baffled why a film he made 45 years ago continued to bring so much joy to people's lives, but it very much does, and through it, his memory will live on. Everyone I know who has met him has nothing but good words to say about a kind, warm human being. My thoughts are with his family and friends at this time. Hold onto the happy memories and he'll always be with you.*

Didymus Holmes - January 22, 2024 at 10:06 AM

DA

“ I am truly saddened. I have such a strong image of him in my mind from my childhood. I remember watching him In Dawn of the Dead at the UA East in NYC after school. I went seven days in a row. I have never seen a movie more times. The actors in Dawn of the Dead feel like a weird dream family to me. Emge only made a few movies, but it seems like he was born to play that role. All of them do. RIP Flyboy. Thanks for the memories, Mr. Emge.

David Ames - January 22, 2024 at 09:52 AM



“ You will never be forgotten; the best Zombie Walk of the series... I wish that I had a chance to meet you. All my best to your family and God bless your legacy. Thank you for the years of enjoyment that you gave me...

Jefferson Jefferson - January 22, 2024 at 09:46 AM

BR

“ He had such a positive effect on a lot of people. Rest in peace.

Brian - January 22, 2024 at 09:34 AM

JE

“ getting to meet David was a huge moment for me. He starred in one of my all time favorite movies. He was beyond kind. I had to travel in a snow blizzard to meet him in 2015. Im glad ai had the honor. Rest in peace flyboy. thank you for all the years of entertainment. you meant so much to us fans



jeremy - January 22, 2024 at 09:26 AM

PA

What a great picture. I got to meet the three other cast members last year, here in the uk. Sadly David was unable to make it. So it's great to see such lovely comments about this legend. 🙏

Paul Alland - January 22, 2024 at 12:45 PM

JP

He was The Best 😊

Joe Payne - September 04, 2024 at 04:52 AM

JA

“ Thanks so much for being a part of my childhood nightmares in Dawn of the dead ! You will be missed , rest in peace .

johnny adkins - January 22, 2024 at 09:25 AM

MM

“ Thanks for the memories Mr. Emge. Rest easy.

Mark Miller - January 22, 2024 at 08:58 AM

RA

“ A living legend. Met him twice, he was super awesome. So sad.

Randy - January 22, 2024 at 08:57 AM

SL

“ DOTD is one of my favorite films and David was a large part of that experience. God bless him and thank you for your service always. Prayers to the family.

Sharon Lindner - January 22, 2024 at 08:27 AM

AW

“ Most sorry to hear of Mr. Emge's passing, maybe a small part of my life for the last 45 years but an important one.

Andrew Webb - January 22, 2024 at 08:26 AM

ED

“ Dawn of the Dead has been a favorite of mine since I first saw it in the 80s. Last June I attended the Living Dead Weekend in Monroeville Pennsylvania and got to meet many of the actors who were in the movie, but sadly David was not there. He will never be forgotten. RIP

Edward Drake - January 22, 2024 at 08:18 AM

JM

“ Deepest condolences to David's family from all his fans in Ireland. A man who served his country in Vietnam and 9/11 and changed the world with his role in Dawn of the Dead. Much respect

Joe mcGuigan - January 22, 2024 at 08:14 AM

PB

“ Some things are like masterpieces on a wall that never leave us and Mr Emge's performance in Dawn of the Dead was part of my childhood and is still part of my life now. The greatest zombie in cinema ever. There is a special place in heaven waiting for you along with George xxx

Paul John Blair - January 22, 2024 at 08:03 AM

TB

“ Had a lot of good times with David and the rest of the family on 10th ave . i now live in florida but still remember all of you . Would like to see you all again n the future Tom Beal, God Bless to you all

TOM beal - January 22, 2024 at 08:00 AM

JB

“ To Michael's family and friends, i am so sorry for your loss,.
As an actor in 1 film,
he contributed to something so special, and meaningful to so many..
My sincerest condolences .

Jim Bissell - January 22, 2024 at 07:57 AM

JE

“ I am so sorry for the family's loss. I was fortunate to meet him once,
and he was very kind. Sending love.

Jes - January 22, 2024 at 07:50 AM

WB

“ R.I.P. Mr. Emge. You will live on forever through your work. God
bless.

William Blasko - January 22, 2024 at 07:37 AM

TC

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Todd condit - January 22, 2024 at 07:20 AM

LV

OMG! I will miss you David Emge! RIP Flyboy Zombie..

Linda Jean Vann - January 22, 2024 at 07:51 AM

TH

Like so many across the globe, I have long loved his performance in DAWN OF THE DEAD. He may be gone, but thanks to his work in film, he will not be forgotten. My condolences to his friends and family.

Troy Howarth - January 22, 2024 at 07:54 AM



*David Emge thank you for all the entertainment and thank you for your service to your country. RIP David Emge aka Flyboy.
Brian Matthew Sheridan Coral Springs, FL*

Brian Sheridan - May 07 at 01:29 PM

MK

“ *It's an honor to have met you! Rest in Peace David.
Greetings from Germany*



Marc Küchemann - January 22, 2024 at 07:11 AM

RH

“ *David kindled my love of films with his acting performances when I was a teenager. Thank you so much. RIP x*

richard hector-jones - January 22, 2024 at 06:51 AM

TC

“ *Thank you so much for the amazing flyboy. You will be missed David.*

Todd condit - January 22, 2024 at 06:35 AM

MM

“ I'm grateful for such a great day. Peace be with you. Flyboy. From Germany, greetings.

Mike Mohrmann - January 22, 2024 at 06:12 AM

MM

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Mike Mohrmann - January 22, 2024 at 06:11 AM



Christophe
King

“ An icon to a whole generation of horror genre fans and a real gentleman when I was lucky enough to meet him . Rest In Peace , Flyboy.

Christopher King - January 22, 2024 at 05:29 AM

LG

“ Fly free David. #RIP



Loretta Greene - January 22, 2024 at 05:04 AM

JL

“ Another legend passes,condolences to family and friends.R.I.P Sir

John Leask - January 22, 2024 at 04:36 AM

ER

“ *Beyond words... Rest easy Flyboy.*

Eric - January 22, 2024 at 04:31 AM

DB

“ *Sending love from the UK. "Flyboy" was the greatest.*

Derren B. - January 22, 2024 at 04:13 AM

EV

“ *RIP You have fans around the world who enjoyed your work. God bless you and your family. Ed V. Pittsburgh, Pa.*

Edward Vega - January 22, 2024 at 03:43 AM

MI

“ *I never met David but I did go to the Saturday Nightmares Convention 2010 at the Lowe's in Jersey City, NJ and David was there and walking around but I didn't want to bother him as he wasn't at his autograph table. Sadly, I never got to meet him. May he rest in peace. My deepest condolences to his family*



Mitzi - January 22, 2024 at 03:09 AM



“ I never got to meet him, but I am aware of how fantastic of a man David was. As a young man I was introduced to him through his role in Dawn of the Dead. It was and continues to be an important movie to me and as I've grown I've been able to identify more with the character he portrayed, how we make mistakes through lack of experience with the best of intentions, how we don't always understand or aren't the best at communicating, and how we can get when we are trying to protect the people and things that we care about. I hope that David's family and friends can find some comfort in this time of mourning. He will always be with us and the world is more beautiful because of his time in it.

-Ryan

Ryan Dailey - January 22, 2024 at 02:20 AM

CC

“ R.I.P. Flyboy. My condolences to David's family and friends.



Chris Carter - January 22, 2024 at 01:58 AM

JF

“ Never had the pleasure of meeting David, but I am a big fan. Thank you for your contribution to one of the greatest movies of all time. R.I.P Flyboy and sincere condolences to your family.

Jeremy Fairman - January 22, 2024 at 01:41 AM



“ Had the pleasure of meeting him in Chicago in 2013 courtesy of Flashback Weekend. Very nice man, and a fine actor. RIP David.

R - January 22, 2024 at 01:08 AM



“ I appreciate the brief moment we shared and the conversation we had over a few drinks. Fly peacefully, Flyboy. Class act.

Rich Krusell - January 22, 2024 at 01:04 AM



“ Just a fan of his work in Dawn of the Dead. My sincerest condolences to his friends and family.

Carl - January 22, 2024 at 12:54 AM



“ My condolences to the family and fans. Very sad news and I hope he's in a better place. Watching Dawn of the Dead right now and it's a very sad day for the zombie community.

RIP

Aaron Dyke - January 22, 2024 at 12:53 AM



“ Jason lit a candle in memory of David Michael Emge



Jason - January 22, 2024 at 12:38 AM



“ I interviewed him for our TV program back in 2007, Great Guy, Legendary Film Star



Karlos Jerry Moore - January 22, 2024 at 12:37 AM

JA

“ This is devastating. Cant/don't want to believe it. Never met the man, but has been a part of my childhood up into my adulthood as a fan. Legend. World lost a good one. Condolences to his family and friends. Always flyin Fly Boy! R.I.P.

Jason - January 22, 2024 at 12:34 AM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of David Michael Emge.



January 22, 2024 at 12:30 AM

PM

“ Phil Nobile Jr & Fangoria Magazine planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of David Michael Emge.

Phil Nobile Jr & Fangoria Magazine - January 22, 2024 at 12:30 AM



“ I had the pleasure of meeting David some twenty years ago alongside other costars from the film he’s probably most synonymous with in the public consciousness. It was such a fun experience and clearly in the very short time I got to exchange pleasantries there was more to this star than Dawn of the Dead.

Still, there are millions of fans who will carry his memory forwards. In that respect, although sorely missed he’ll live on in so many hearts and minds. My condolences to family, friends, and my fellow fans.

James Taundry - January 21, 2024 at 11:48 PM

AN

“ Condolences to the Emge family and friends. David will be sorely missed.

Anthony - January 21, 2024 at 11:37 PM

CA

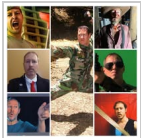
“ Rest easy, Fly Boy.

Cory Allen - January 21, 2024 at 11:34 PM

JM

“ Sending prayers and healing vibes to David’s family, friends and fans. Heaven welcomes another legend. Thank you for your gifts.

Joe McParland - January 21, 2024 at 11:21 PM



“ So sorry to hear about David. His performance in DAWN OF THE DEAD is still one of the greatest ever. He will never be forgotten.

Eric Spudic - January 21, 2024 at 11:16 PM



“ *Met David in 2005. A kind soul. Funny, gracious, and selfless. I am merely one of tens of thousands of his fans. He will be missed so very much. "You did alright this time, Flyboy!"* ”



Ro Szkowski - January 21, 2024 at 11:15 PM