



## Joseph Philip Johnson

May 12, 1939 - January 5, 2021

Joseph Philip Johnson, age 81, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, January 5, 2021 at Methodist Hospital in Germantown. Joe was born on May 12, 1939 in Caruthersville, Missouri, to Luther B. and Veronica Brunnert Johnson. A true family man, Joe is survived by his wife of 59 years, Dorothy Long Johnson, his children Annalisa J. Robertson (David) and Earl Frank Johnson, grandchildren Frank Walton Robertson (Kellyn), David Lee Robertson (Dena), and Jordyn Mays Johnson, and great grandchildren Rayna, Houston, and Levi. He is also survived by his siblings Johnny (Eleanor), Margaret Coppage (Earl), Paul, Agnes Cobb and friend Les Sides, Mike (Trudy), Pat (Mary Ann), Chris (Wannie), and Gerry Wayne, as well as numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his two infant children Dorothy Jo and Joe Frank, infant brother Francis, brother Richard, sister Gertie and her husband Wayne, brother-in-law Jerry, sister-in-law Martha, and niece Ginny.

Joe graduated from Caruthersville High School in 1957 and during summers worked in Idaho for the U.S. Forestry Service fighting forest fires. He graduated from the University of Missouri-Rolla with a degree in Civil Engineering and earned his Professional Engineering license in Missouri and Tennessee, and worked for Pidgeon Thomas and Skaggs Iron Works. After retiring, he and his partner started their own Structural Drafting Company. Joe was a member of OLPH Catholic Church and a lifetime member of Knights of Columbus. He enjoyed hunting and playing golf with his children, grandchildren and siblings, sketching and oil painting, and traveling with his family.

Beyond his lineage and any professional accomplishments, Joe will always be remembered by the relationships he had with each and every one whose life he touched. He had a contagious sense of wonder and joy and an unparalleled, unspoken generosity to all of those he knew. Joe's integrity and love for life was inspirational to all who had the pleasure to know him.

Joe's family will hold a private gathering for his celebration of life.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital, SRVS Memphis or School Sisters of Notre Dame in St. Louis.

# Comments

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“ Sorry for your loss, Dotty. Your friend Gayle Riggs

gayle riggs - February 08 at 07:57 PM

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“ I'm Chris, brother of Joe, and #10 of 11 children. Like Mike, one of my favorite memories of Joe was at one of our hunting trips. We would usually leave the woods about 30 minutes before dark to head back to the motel. One night we all got back and were having a beer talking about the day's hunt, before someone realized it was unlike Joe to be taking such a long shower. We finally realized that Joe had been left in the woods. So back to the woods we went. By the time we got there, Joe had walked out to the road. He said that as he was walking out, he held his flashlight under the barrel of his rifle, acutely aware of all the sounds of the woods around him, ready to shoot whatever popped out in front of him. And because of his amazing storytelling ability, I still laugh when I imagine how he must have looked, slowly walking in a hunter's crouch, quickly pointing his flashlight/rifle at every sound around him. One of Joe's many talents was painting, but Joe could paint a picture with his words as well as with a brush. He will be missed by all of us.

Chris Johnson - January 18 at 11:44 AM

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“ I am Paul E Johnson, Joes brother- smack in the middle of eleven children. There are many fond memories of Joe Phillip (per Dotty), some which I cannot relate here, but Dotty knows. But the one I do remember is Joe and his friends came in on Saturday night and raided all the ice cream, emptying the container. Before going upstairs, Joe put a brick in the ice cream carton, so Mom would think it was full. Sunday, as usual Mom and Dad had the parish priest over for dinner—needless to say, when Mom started to serve the dessert, she was surprised and VERY upset!! But everyone had a good laugh and Joe has never fully confessed! Another memory is of Joe's vivid imagination, especially how he was a great teller of tales. It would take him a minimum of 15 minutes to tell you his summary of a movie. And I learned after seeing the movie, I was disappointed because Joe's version was always better than the movie itself! Dotty Lou has to be a saint for always putting up with all of Joe's antics. I think I'll share a Jack & Water with Joe tonight. God bless.

Paul Johnson - January 15 at 07:03 PM

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“ I am Mike Johnson, Joe's brother and number nine of the eleven children. My favorite memories of Joe are our family Fourth of July celebrations in Caruthersville, MO where all of our families would gather together. The boys would spend the day in the backyard cooking barbeque chicken and drinking a few beers and then when evening came, Joe would entertain the whole family for hours with fabulous fireworks! My other favorite memory of Joe involves a deer hunting trip in November of 1992 where he was the hunting guide for John, Richard, Pat, Chris, Chris C, Les and me. When Joe dropped me off near my stand, he gave me a Snickers Candy Bar and said that if I did not see any deer within a couple of hours to eat the candy bar because the deer liked the smell. I laughed and said okay. It had been about an hour and a half and I had not seen or heard anything so I started eating the Snickers Bar, After the first bite, I suddenly saw a deer about a hundred yards away walking my way. I almost choked on the Snickers Bar! After what seemed like forever, a huge ten point buck finally stepped out in the middle of the road. I hit him broadside and he jumped high and took off, but after thirty minutes, we found him. It was a trifecta that day as I shot my first buck along with Chris C and Les. Joe was indeed a great hunting guide and even better brother! We love you, Joe! Thanks for the great memories!

**Mike Johnson** - January 14 at 06:26 PM

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“ Dotty

I am heartbroken for you and your family at Joe's passing. He was such a friendly, easy to converse with person that left you with a smile on your face. It was always a joy to see him. My thoughts and prayers are with you all during this difficult time. I know that he has left you with good memories that will be with you all until you see each other again.

Andrew Pouncey

**Andrew Pouncey** - January 13 at 10:01 PM

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“ Our thoughts and prayers are with Dotty, Lisa and all of the family. We love you all and will be here whenever you need us.

Lisa Piefer, Cathryn Perdue, Jennifer Jenkins, Allura Spaulding, Henry Hampton and Chris Franklin  
City of Germantown - Procurement & Risk Department



Lisa A. Piefer - January 13 at 11:04 AM

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“ I am Agnes Johnson Cobb and I am seven years younger than Joe. Joe always made fun and games out of anything. When I was in grade school I would ask Joe for help with my homework. Joe always helped me and made it lots of fun. I asked for help often!! Joe was there for all of us, like a best friend would be. When I gave birth to my son Chris I asked Joe to be his Godfather. Fourteen years later when my husband died, Joe was there again for Chris , Monica my daughter, and for me, like a BEST FRIEND. Joe I will miss our long late night phone calls, teasing Dotty terribly. Thank you Dotty for being a good sport. Joe I will still be calling you, just not with a phone. Ps: He made the best Mc Joe breakfast.

Agnes Johnson Cobb - January 13 at 01:50 AM

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“ I am Patrick Johnson, one of Joe's seven brothers. I always admired Joe because he was such a happy confident person in all aspects of his life. My wife, Mary Ann, and I respected Joe so much we named our son after him. Also, my wife shared Joe's birth date of May 12. Joe advised Mary Ann and me, when our children (Joseph and Beth) were very young, to spend as much time as we could taking trips making memories which would last forever. We took Joe's advice and traveled throughout the country. When we retired, we bought a travel trailer and now our children and grandchildren have joined us on new adventures including trips to Niagara Falls, Rocky Mountain National Park, and Acadia National Park in Bar Harbor, Maine. Our entire family is very thankful to Joe for that advice that he gave us many years ago. God bless you, Joseph Phillip Johnson. Thank you for many great memories.

Patrick Johnson - January 12 at 05:16 PM