



Ronald Alan Johnson

December 3, 1937 - January 13, 2023

Ronald Alan Johnson, the youngest and largest (11.5 lbs) of Gustav and Amy Johnson's children, was born in the family farmhouse north of Garfield, Minnesota on December 3rd, 1937. He passed away peacefully on January 13th, 2023 at the age of 85 in St. Louis Park, Minnesota. He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Marlene; and sisters Marian Elness and Muriel Visness. He is survived by son Jeffrey (Charity Kreider); grandchildren Thea and Soren; sister Ardyce Anderson; and brother Dwight Johnson.

"Alan" graduated from Central High in Alexandria in 1954 and later North Park Junior College in Chicago in 1956. Tired of saying "I go by my middle name," during a brief stint at the University of Minnesota, he began to go by his first name, Ron. He would go on to graduate from Moorhead State College in 1959 with a Bachelors in Science, majoring in mathematics and education.

Ron enlisted in the Army in September 1960. After training in Texas and Oklahoma, he spent much of the next three years in Germany attaining the rank of SP5 as an artillery survey specialist. Returning to civilian life Ron worked as a computer programmer at IDS in downtown Minneapolis from 1963 to 1978. In 1978 he returned home to Douglas County where he worked as a computer programming instructor at Alexandria Technical College for the next 10 years. In 1988 the family moved back to the Twin Cities and Ron worked at various firms, retiring from Fair Isaac in Arden Hills on his 65th

birthday in 2002.

Ron met his future wife Marlene Warne in 1965 in South Minneapolis and the two were married on May 5, 1968. The early years of their relationship were highlighted by evenings spent with friends at Liquor Lyles, the CC Club or the local bowling alley. Later in life the pair spent countless hours snowmobiling, fishing, playing bingo, and traveling to Nevada a few times a year to play the slots. After nearly 48 years of marriage Marlene passed away on March 23, 2016 and was laid to rest at Fort Snelling National Cemetery.

In 1982 (on his 45th birthday!) Ron required quadruple heart bypass surgery that was complicated by a bout of pneumonia which nearly took his life. He greeted each day thereafter with anticipation and thankfulness, and despite a few setbacks over the years maintained a very active and happy life right up to his final days. He was a gentle soul who approached life with a quiet confidence and usually found a way to make the best of any situation. He was a devoted husband, loving father and grandfather, and great friend to many wonderful people. He even found a new love, Nancy, to share the final few years of his life with and Ron beamed with joy.

A celebration of Ron's life will be held from 1-3 pm on Monday, January 23rd at Washburn-McReavy funeral home in Bloomington, MN. His ashes will be laid to rest at Ft. Snelling at a later date.

Previous Events

Memorial Gathering

JAN **23**. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Bloomington Chapel
2300 W. Old Shakopee Road
Bloomington, MN 55431
(952) 884-8145
info@washburn-mcreavy.com

Tribute Wall

LS

“ To Jeff, Charity, Thea and Soren, My brother Dennis and I want to extend our sympathies to you and all other family members and friends.

We are first cousins to Ron's late wife Marlene. We were unable to attend the service due to physical issues. Ron was best man at Dennis's wedding in late 1968 to Gladys.

I miss receiving emails from Ron - always made my day.

Regards,

Linda Sullivan

Linda Sullivan - January 24, 2023 at 01:52 PM

LJ

“ Linda E Johnson lit a candle in memory of Ronald Alan Johnson



Linda E Johnson - January 23, 2023 at 11:56 AM

LJ

“ To the family of my cousin Ron and his dear friend Nancy: cousins are treasures from God, older, wiser, funnier, and cannot be replaced.

I live in AZ and will be unable to attend Ron's memorial, but he will be in my heart of memories.

Linda E Johnson - January 23, 2023 at 11:50 AM

DA

“ We are so sorry we are unable to attend Rons visitation. We send our sincere sympathy to all the family. Ron has been attending our annual Hymn Sings that we have had at his folks church near Garfield, MN. Lake Chippewa Covenant Church. We have enjoyed visiting with Ron, Ardy and even Dwight has been there. We will also miss his selective emails as he called then to us. They always brought a smile or laugh. Miss you Ron! Dick and Sue

Dick and Sue Anderson - January 22, 2023 at 03:41 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ronald Alan Johnson.



January 20, 2023 at 05:17 PM

RI

“ Rick,Stu,Jennifer,Jan,Brad purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Ronald Alan Johnson.



Rick,Stu,Jennifer,Jan,Brad - January 19, 2023 at 12:15 PM



“ Delightful Dieffenbachia was purchased for the family of Ronald Alan Johnson.



January 18, 2023 at 11:52 PM

NB

“ On August 30, 2021 at a 1 room country school class reunion. I met Ronald Johnson for the first time. Who for the next 2 yrs I would be able to call my second love.

Getting to find a companion at an older age in life is magical and scary at the same time.

We did many exciting things in our relationship, but the best thing I liked is just being with him. Our time together was short, but it was a time I will cherish for my lifetime.

It was a long distant relationship, but we made it work and cherished our time together even more.

At 8:00 pm Ron would call me every night with the hi sweetheart, love you dear. Ron and I would catch up on our day and know we were both home and safe.

From now on my heart will forever be at fort snelling.

Forever and always my love!! Love you much.. Until we meet again.

Nancy

nancy becker - January 18, 2023 at 11:30 PM