Sossoman
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Walter Melvin Johnson, Jr.

Dec. 26, 1941 - Feb. 23, 2024

Walter Melvin Johnson Jr, 82, of Morganton went home with Jesus on 02/23/2024 after winning his fight with ALS.

He was a native of Burke County, born 12/26/1941 to the late Walter Melvin Johnson and Eula Mae Baker Johnson.

He was a master craftsman and enjoyed woodworking. After serving with the United States Army, he worked for Drexel Furniture for 9 years before devoting his career to work with the special needs population at what is now the J Iverson Riddle Developmental Center for 28 years sharing his love and knowledge of woodworking.

Above all, he was a Christian and loved his Lord. He was a member of Burkemont Baptist Church of Morganton. He was devoted to his family, second only to his love for God. His greatest desire was that all would come to know Christ as their Saviour and made sure his family was raised to know the importance of salvation.

He is survived by his wife, Judy Johnson; daughter, Melanie Hensley (Scott) of Morganton; son, Mark Johnson (Lori) of Hotchkiss, Colorado; granddaughters Maegan Hensley of Lenoir and Gracie Hensley of Morganton; grandsons Lane Johnson and Case Johnson of Hotchkiss, Colorado, and a number of loving nephews, nieces, cousins, and special friends.

nephews, nieces, cousins, and special friends.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister, Mattie Suttles of Morganton.

The family will receive friends from 1 to 2 p.m., Wednesday, February 28, 2024 at Burkemont Baptist Church. The funeral will follow 2 p.m. in the church with Rev. Dr. Eddy Bunton officiating. Military honors will be provided by the US Army.

Memorial contributions may be made to the ALS Association at https://donateals.org.

Sossoman Funeral Home and Crematory Center is assisting the family with the arrangements.

Tribute Wall



Judy, So sorry to hear of the passing of Dear Melvin. Our thoughts and prayers for you and your family.

—Dan & Laura Gwyn



—Edna Suttles

—Melvin Johnson

Judy, I am so sorry to hear of Melvin's passing. I pray for God's comfort for you and your family.

—Becky Walker



Melvin, thank you for the many times, when we needed a sense of direction in our work day, and sought out your perspective on the topic. Your respect for others was so admirable You helped in laying the groundwork for a very unique training program designed around persons with

unique training program designed around persons with special needs. We will miss you mild-mannered positive approaches in life. Judy-thanks for loaning Melvin to us . Remembering you and family in our prayers. Marsha and Jerry Reynolds

–Jerry Reynolds



I'm blessed to have known Melvin and come to know his family. I was saddened to hear the news that Melvin had passed away but I know that he's with Our Heavenly Father in a new glorified body. I'm blessed that I was able to help take care of him and he will dearly be missed. Praying for you Mrs Judy and the family

–Rachel Lowery

Melvin and Judy are dear friends and I have known Judy since we worked at Henredon Furniture Company. After that we remained friends and of course Melvin made sure he was in the equation. He was a dear friend as well and always talking to me about the Lord. There is no question in my mind that he will not be meeting any strangers in heaven. Rest In Peace Melvin. Judy you will always be in my mind and in my prayers. God's got you. Love and comfort to Mark and Melanie.

–Walter & Belinda Vinson

I met Melvin at WCC (JIRDC) and I found he was a person who was easy to talk to and seem to be a no nonsense person. He would always greet you no matter where our paths crossed. He would talk about his daughter and how proud he was of her accomplishments. So long for now my friend. Gary

–Gary Harbison



–Eric Proctor

Judy and the families, I was so sorry to hear of Melvin's passing. All of you are in my thoughts and prayers for Comfort, Grace, Peace, and healing in Melvin's passing.

–Alan Byrd



MELVIN WAS ONE OF THE GREATEST HUMAN BEINGS I HAVE EVER KNOWN, TO JUDY AND ALL THE FAMILY,PLEASE KNOW THAT YOU ARE IN MY PRAYERS.I PRAY THAT GOD WILL GIVE YOU STRENGTH AND COMFORT.

–FRED PROCTOR

In the short time I was privileged to know Mr Johnson and his loving Family, he truly made an impact on me. His strength and the smile he would always give, warmed my heart. My prayers are with his Family, but I also know Faith and Peace will lead them through. Thank you for sharing your home and always making me feel welcome.

–Anita Anderson, LPN

Melvin and I worked together for many years at Vocational Rehabilitation. He was truly one of the nicest, most Godly men I've ever known. He was a blessing to everyone he met. My thoughts and prayers are with his entire family.

–Connie L Barnette

Uncle Melvin, you will be surely missed. You were quiet but always had a kind word and a great sense of humor. Your work here is done and we know that you're with the angels and God. You will always be in our hearts and prayers. Love you always.

–Lorraine Proctor



We are so sorry for your loss. You are in our thoughts and prayers today and in the many days that follow as you try to navigate through this difficult time. May God be with each of you.

–Dean Icard



Melanie & Family, I am sorry for your loss. Keeping you and your family in my thoughts & prayers.

–Tammy Brown



Thank you for being such a wonderful father and grandfather.

–Gracie

Melanie and family, So sorry to hear about your dad, prayers and thinking of you

–HILDA BRITTAIN

Melvin was a true friend, like a brother! He will be missed, but we will see each other again soon and we'll have peace and contentment in the "land fairer than

day!” Our love goes to all the family. You know what a treasure you had! Thank you for always honoring him with your respect, support and love! Judy, we love you! You have been God’s perfect helpmate for Mel! Friends forever and eternity, Joe and Kathy

–Joe & Kathy Greene