



Joyce McGuire Johnson

July 8, 1944 - July 3, 2025

With deep love and cherished memories, we celebrate the life of Joyce McGuire Johnson. After a long and courageous battle with Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia (CLL), Joyce transitioned peacefully on July 3rd 2025, at VCU Health Center. She leaves behind a legacy of faith, joy, and unconditional love.

Joyce was born on July 8th 1944, to the late Jackie and Christine McGuire in Cauthorneville, Virginia. She accepted Christ at a young age and became a devoted member of Beulah Baptist Church, Minor, VA where her faith in The Lord blossomed and remained the foundation of her life. Joyce was educated in the King and Queen County Public Schools. She then attended Smith Madden Business College, in Richmond, VA.

Joyce had a long and fulfilling career dedicated to public service. She worked for the Department of Defense and U.S. Department of Agriculture, contributing her skills and dedication to the federal government. She also served in the Essex County Public School and the King and Queen Public School Systems, where she impacted the lives of countless students and colleagues with her kindness and commitment to education. Joyce's work reflected her deep belief in service, community, and making a difference wherever she was needed.

Joyce was a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, cousin and friend. Joyce was preceded in death by her devoted husband, William Rogers Johnson; her precious great-grandchildren Stoni and Dylan Heath; and a brother in law, Robert Ransome.

She leaves to cherish her memory two loving daughters, Lisa and Chante Johnson; three grandchildren, Nikeia Heath (Micheal) Jasmyn Belser (Brian), and Sarai Taylor; along with six great-grandchildren Izaiah Hill, Khaiyon Heath, Collin Belser, Ryan Bradley, Kali Heath, and Karter Belser. Joyce is also survived by her sister, Evelyn Ransome; two brothers, Calvin McGuire (Joyce) and Ralph McGuire (Joan); a brother-in-law, William Rich; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends, whose lives she touched with her vibrant spirit and generous heart.

Joyce was truly the life of the party—her presence lit up every room, and her laughter, energy, and warmth were felt by all who had the pleasure of knowing her. She loved the Lord with all her heart and lived her life in a way that reflected His grace, joy, and love.

Joyce's life was a beautiful testimony of joy, resilience, and deep faith. She will be profoundly missed but forever remembered in the hearts of all who loved and knew her. The family wishes to acknowledge and extend special thanks to Valencia Thomas, Deacon Tony Lamb, Leonard Houston, and Nellie Johnson for their unwavering kindness, support, and prayers.

A funeral service will be held 11AM Friday, July 11, 2025, at Essex High School, 833 High School Circle, Tappahannock, VA 22560. Viewing will begin 9:30AM-11AM just prior to services at the school. Interment to follow in the First Baptist Church of Loretto Church cemetery.

Services for Mrs. Johnson may be viewed with the following link: <https://vime>

o.com/1108156578/879a2b784c?share=copy.

Cemetery Details

First Baptist Church - Loretto

5340 Tidewater Trail
Loretto, VA 22509

Previous Events

Viewing

JUL 11. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Essex High School
833 High School Circle
Tappahannock, VA 22560

Funeral Service

JUL 11. 11:00 AM (ET)

Essex High School
833 High School Circle
Tappahannock, VA 22560

Tribute Wall

CB

“ *Profound sympathy is extended to the family of Mrs. Joyce Johnson as I (we) remember her elegant style, her energetic and charming personality- simply a ray of sunshine that lit every room that she entered. To say that she’s the life of the party is an understatement. Many fond memories were made while she was secretary at EHS. When entering the office, she greeted you with a smile and truly made your experience a special one. I thank God for having a chance to see her just a few years ago when she accompanied my ninth grade English teacher , the late Mr. Larry Giles who invited me to an art show. There we had dinner together , laughing and enjoying each others company. Full of grace and joy, we laughed and enjoyed each other’s company for the very last time. I shall forever remember this special moment and thank God for that great day. To God be the glory for orchestrating this moment. Servant of God, rest from your labor.*

Cynthia Pitts Blagmon - July 12, 2025 at 06:24 AM

RY

“ *I am so saddened to hear of Joyce’s passing. She was such a breath of fresh air! God allowed me to reconnect with her a couple of months ago and it was a blessing. MayHod bless the family! (Rev. Mary Young)*

Rev. Mary Young - July 11, 2025 at 06:19 PM

JA

“ We extend our deepest sympathies to Joyce's entire family. Her name, joyful face, and spirit will always be in our thoughts.

In Sympathy,

Mary Gladys Johnson, Drucilla Acree-Jeter (James), Jennifer Acree (George) & Extended Family



Jennifer Acree - July 11, 2025 at 11:31 AM

JM

“ Joyce McGuire lit a candle in memory of Joyce McGuire Johnson



Joyce McGuire - July 10, 2025 at 08:18 PM

FC

A lady with a Beautiful smile; will miss our conversations when visiting Birginia

Floraine Cunningham - July 11, 2025 at 11:34 AM

RJ

“ To Lisa and family my deepest condolences to you and ur family Ms Johnson was very nice lady 🙏🙏🙏

Ruth johnson - July 10, 2025 at 12:21 AM

ZT

“ Mrs Johnson, you will greatly missed and loved forever RIEP Mrs Johnson.

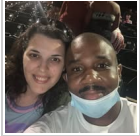
Zina Taylor - July 09, 2025 at 09:14 PM

TS

“ *Your sassiness, self-confidence and smiles will be greatly missed in and around Guardian Place Senior Retirement Community. Now I fully understand, after reading the obituary, why our conversations were so lively as our backgrounds, passions and personalities were all so very similar. Rise in blessed power and rest in eternal peace neighbor. Romans 8:38-39*



Thomasine Stroble - July 09, 2025 at 01:51 PM



“ *Remembering you in prayer family. RIP Cousin Joyce. Winfred, Jessica, and Zion.*



Winfred Wills - July 09, 2025 at 03:52 AM

BS

“ *To Lisa and the Johnson Family, may God's tender arms hold and support you as you mourn your lovely mom, grandma, sister, and friend. Ms. Johnson was always so happy and joyful; she will surely be missed. Thinking of you all and praying God's peace be with you.*

*In Loving Memory,
Betty and Nestor Saunders*

Betty Saunders - July 08, 2025 at 06:04 PM

JM

“ *Joan McGuire lit a candle in memory of Joyce McGuire Johnson*



Joan McGuire - July 08, 2025 at 02:19 PM

RT

“ *Thank You Ms J for always looking out for me at Guardian Place I'll never forget you*

Reginald Thompson - July 08, 2025 at 01:53 PM

KB

“ *I was Ms Johnson Beautician for the past three years at Guardian Place. She was always so pleasant and kind and we often shared a laugh between us, she was a true fighter and now you can take your rest Ms Johnson, love you ,Kim*

Kim Bradby - July 08, 2025 at 01:50 PM

TW

“ *Sorry For Your Loss*



Thomas Widgeon - July 08, 2025 at 05:22 AM

EG

*To the family of Joyce M. Johnson, I am so sorry for your loss as well as ours. Joyce was a joy to be around and there will never be another to compare. We loved her but God loved her best.
Ellen Gray and Family*

Ellen Gray - July 08, 2025 at 08:48 AM

JJ

“ *Sending Condolences, sympathy and prayers to Lisa and Shanta and the family. Was very touched to hear this. Joyce and I were on the Adm Staff at First Baptist Loretto. She was full of joy and loved her jokes. She was such a nice individual to be around. Expressions of Love Janet Jeter*



Janet Jeter - July 07, 2025 at 04:49 PM

DC

“ *Sending heartfelt condolences and prayers to Lisa and the entire family. Love Dedra Carey & Tony Blair*



Dee Carey - July 07, 2025 at 04:33 PM

JC

“ Our neighbor, We was not expecting the call that we received on Thursday about your home going. We have been neighbors for 20 years (June longer). We could look into each other yards. We minded our own business, yet was very aware of when something was not right. You was a joy to be around, I could be feeling the worst and you always found a way to make me laugh. You had jokes, wisdom, a beautiful heart. I know that you did not get into the pearly gates quick enough before you were cutting up. Take your rest now. Not too soon - but see you later. Love June and DD Clarke

Julian & Dedra Clarke - July 07, 2025 at 03:17 PM

BC

“ As you walk through this time of loss, may you know that the Lord walks with you and he will comfort you. The Lord is close to all who call on him. PSALM 145:18. Mrs. Johnson was a joy to be around during her many years working in the Essex County School system. She was loved by many. May GODs peace be with you.

Barbara A. Clarke - July 07, 2025 at 03:07 PM

GB

“ Joyce was such a delightful person. She kept everyone laughing. I am truly saddened and in disbelief by her passing. May the fond memories of the joy she gave to all who knew her bring comfort as we navigate life without such a lovely lady. Joyce fought a good fight.

Gloria Bagby - July 07, 2025 at 10:12 AM

CR

“ Carolyn Reynolds lit a candle in memory of Joyce McGuire Johnson



Carolyn Reynolds - July 07, 2025 at 09:53 AM

ES

“ Elmer Smith lit a candle in memory of Joyce McGuire Johnson



Elmer Smith - July 06, 2025 at 07:18 PM

JM

“ Joyce Mcguire lit a candle in memory of Joyce McGuire Johnson



Joyce mcguire - July 06, 2025 at 07:14 PM

JM

I am praying for the family. 🙏🙏🙏🙏

Joyce mcguire - July 06, 2025 at 07:17 PM

MG

Joyce wore many hats during her life time. Joy, happiness, and a listening ear were among the few. Family keep the love of God close in your hearts because He is our sustainer during these difficult times.
Margie E. Gray

Margie E. Gray - July 09, 2025 at 02:42 PM