



## Richard Burke Johnson

August 30, 1932 - June 14, 2016

Richard Burke Johnson, 83, died on the 14th of June at his home in West Point after a long illness in the company of his family. Mr. Johnson was born in Richmond and in early childhood lived in Waverly and Richmond. His parents, Richard Bell and Ruth Sinclair Crismond Johnson moved to West Point where Mr. Johnson lived for much of his adult life.

Mr. Johnson is survived by his remarkable wife, friend and confidant, Lou Weston Elam Johnson who graciously gave his life many fun filled, interesting and fascinating years. His two sons, Richard Burke Johnson, Jr. and Taylor Randolph Johnson live in Irvington, VA and Goochland County, VA respectively, with his grandchildren Weston Burke Johnson, Christian Taylor Johnson, Aline Gill Johnson, Virginia Isabel Sinclair Johnson and Neena Frances Johnson who, throughout his later life, have always been a special joy to him and of whom he is most proud.

Mr. Johnson graduated from the West Point Schools, and Virginia Tech with a degree in Business Administration. He was a member of the Va. Tech Corp of Cadets and the German Club, of which he was president. He leaves with memories of Va. Tech, and of three of its institutions which influenced much of his later life, the German Club, Dr. William L. Sandidge and Mr. John Peterman.

Mr. Johnson and family spent many happy and memorable years in Norfolk where he was employed by Norfolk Newspapers and formed his own advertising business. While there he was a member of the Norfolk Yacht and

Country Club and The Norfolk Assembly and a vestry member of the Church of The Good Shepherd. After leaving Norfolk, the Johnson family moved to West Point to join the York Supply Co., Inc. where he served as vice president and president for some 33 years. He also served as president of the West Point Chamber of Commerce, was a former president of the Virginia Building Materials Assoc. and was a member of the West Point Town Council, serving 14 years as Councilmember, Vice Mayor and Mayor. Along with his wife, he was a Board Member of Old St. John's Restoration Association for many years. He and Lou enjoyed many, many pleasant hours in the homes of their friends in Norfolk and Richmond and as a member of the Souixante Plus and Societe de Cuisine. Pleasant too were happy years as a member of the CCIA in South Bristol, ME, enjoying island picnics with family and friends on his boat, Turtle.

Mr. Johnson was a member of The Order of First Families of Virginia, The Jamestowne Society, serving a term as Councilor, and The Sons of the American Revolution in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

A memorial service will be held 11 a.m., Saturday, June 18th at Old Saint John's Episcopal Church, 103 St. John's Church Lane, West Point, VA 23181, <http://oldstjohns.org>.

In lieu of flowers, contributions should be made the Old Saint John's Restoration Association, PO Box 976, West Point, VA 23181.

# Previous Events

## Service

JUN 18. 11:00 AM (ET)

Old Saint John's Episcopal Church  
103 St. John's Church Lane  
West Point, VA 23181  
<http://oldstjohns.org/>

# Tribute Wall

MK

“ *Maggie Brown Kins lit a candle in memory of Richard Burke Johnson*



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**Maggie Brown Kins** - October 05, 2016 at 08:47 PM

MK

*Dear Lou, Taylor, Burke, Jr. and family, I am so sorry for your loss. Burke was such a gentleman and positive, jovial friend. His continual smile and laughter was felt by everyone around him and those he touched. He was such a family man, hard worker with deep values and reflected the "greatest generation." I will miss him at CCIA and seeing him on the Turtle. His wit and sense of humor is passed down to his two sons. I am thinking of you all, my deepest condolences. Lovingly, Maggie*

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**Maggie Brown Kins** - October 05, 2016 at 08:53 PM

MM

“ *Marcus And Donna Massok lit a candle in memory of Richard Burke Johnson*



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**Marcus and Donna Massok** - July 05, 2016 at 11:28 AM

MM

“ Dear Mrs. Johnson and family. We were so sad to hear about Mr. Johnson's passing. He was such a nice man. He was always so kind to us. He helped us many times while shopping at York Supply. He always had a smile. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your children. Donna and Marcus Massok

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**Marcus and Donna Massok** - July 05, 2016 at 11:15 AM

TG

“ Lou and family,  
I was extremely sorry to hear about Burke. I thoroughly enjoyed my years on town council with him and our weekly meetings to discuss upcoming events when I was vice- mayor and he was mayor. He will be missed by all who knew him. Prayers for the family and friends who loved him.

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**Tina Gulley** - July 05, 2016 at 10:10 AM

JP

“ Lou and family,  
So sorry to learn of Burkes' passing. You are in my thoughts....I'll walk across the street and visit this summer. Thinking of you.  
Julie Prescott and family

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**julie prescott** - June 20, 2016 at 01:15 PM

VA

“ Our thoughts and prayers and with you and your family, Lou. Will fondly remembers working at York Supply with Burke, Robbie, and Al. Burke provided a much needed safe harbor for Will following a difficult time. Burke's kindness was greatly appreciated.  
God bless,  
Virginia and Will Addison

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**Virginia and Will Addison** - June 19, 2016 at 12:55 PM

KH

“ I'm so sorry to hear about Burke. He was one of my favorites at Wednesday painting. He will be sorely missed.  
My sympathies to Lou and the family.  
Kathleen Horst

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**Kathleen Horst** - June 18, 2016 at 07:55 PM

BD

“ Lou & Family, Burke was a great gentlemen. He loved his family. He worked hard for the Town of West Point to make it a better place. I grew up on a family farm in King & Queen and we came to his store, The York Supply Company for years. He later became my client in Richmond, which he was such a good and friendly person. He will be missed by all us that knew him.  
The family needs to remember all the good things he did for the community and the good times they had together.

*Our prayers are with all of you in this difficult time.*

*Bill (W.T.) & Carol Didlake*

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**Bill (W.T.) & Carol Didlake** - June 17, 2016 at 03:57 PM

 Iris  
Pate

“ Iris Pate sent a virtual gift in memory of Richard Burke Johnson



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**Iris Pate** - June 17, 2016 at 12:07 PM

MC

“ Peaceful journey dear gentleman Burke, we will miss your kind smile. Capps family

Marlene Capps - June 16, 2016 at 10:33 PM

LC

“ LARRY AND ROXANNA CLORE lit a candle in memory of Richard Burke Johnson



LARRY AND ROXANNA CLORE - June 16, 2016 at 06:59 PM

MC

“ Lou and family, Burke always made me feel so important when I entered a room and he will be missed by all. He was so good to the people of West Point. When you sit down to remember all those precious memories they will bring you ROSES IN DECEMBER! In Christian Love, Marianna and Bob Chestnutt

marianna chestnutt - June 16, 2016 at 12:07 PM

PY

“ Patsy Torbert Yarrington lit a candle in memory of Richard Burke Johnson



Patsy Torbert Yarrington - June 16, 2016 at 09:44 AM

LC

“ *How lucky we are to have such wonderful cousins like Burke. We will miss his smile and friendly personality! If you need anything just let us know. Love to all of you, Leon and LaPointe Crismond*

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**LaPointe Crismond** - June 15, 2016 at 03:32 PM



*We just heard about Burke's passing and didn't even know about it. Want to express our sincere sympathy to you and the family. What a kind, gentle man he was and very talented and I know you and the community will miss him dearly. If there's anything I can do, please don't hesitate to call me.*

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**Brenda Hundley** - June 20, 2016 at 08:21 AM