



## Bishop James Reece Johnson

March 2, 1945 - June 22, 2024

James Reese Johnson transitioned peacefully on Saturday, June 22, 2024 at the age of seventy-nine (79). He was born on March 2, 1945 in Snow Hill, MD. His mother, Viola Copes, passed away when he was a young boy. His father was the late James Shockley. His grandparents, Buelah and Irvin Johnson, raised him on a farm in Snow Hill, MD. Both have preceded him in death.

James, aka Big James, aka Tiny, aka Jimmie, aka Reverend Ike, was a gentle giant who loved people. He was married to Mary Alice Johnson for fifty-five (55) years and together, they raised eight boys and four girls with lots of love and devotion. He loved Mary with an enduring love, and before he transitioned, he was persistent in telling his children to make sure the love of his life was taken care of. With a large family, he worked hard to care for and spoil his babies.

His profession for many years was a self-employed mason. He loved taking his children down to Ocean City to show them the foundations that he poured. His greatest love was fishing. Sometimes he would stay on the pier overnight or multiple days just fishing until the frustrated Mary Johnson would tell him to come and get his kids. He loved his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren with unconditional love. He and his wife opened their home to their nieces and nephews, as well as others, giving them lots of love and direction. James loved to laugh and give his family that “Fred Sanford” look

when he didn't agree with something. His greatest past time was calling his wife all the time "MARRRRRRYYYYYYY."

Bishop James Johnson gave his life to God in 1970 at the Apostolic Church of Emmanuel in Peppertown, DE. He later became a deacon at the Apostolic Church of Emmanuel on Seminole Boulevard in Salisbury, MD, under the direction of Bishop Roscoe M. Johnson. Bishop Roscoe became a father figure to him and under Bishop Roscoe's tutelage, he embraced the true word of God and accepted the calling.

In 1979, God was calling him to Pastor Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ of the Apostolic Faith, Inc. The humble beginnings started in members' homes until God gave him the means to build the church with his own hands. For nearly a half-century, Bishop Johnson preached God's word with such power and integrity. He loved studying the word of God. The late Apostle Donald Johnson and Bishop would study together so long they both would fall asleep on each other. Bishop Johnson was so humble. He never wanted attention drawn to himself, but was always concerned about others. Under his leadership, many souls have been saved, set free, and delivered. Miracles have been manifested even in his own life. Some say that Bishop's anointing saved their life.

In addition to his parents and grandparents, James was preceded in death by: his two sons, Peter Maurice Johnson and Apostle Donald Covington Johnson; two grandsons, Kameron Lee Chandler and Dortez Rufus McCray, Jr.; his in-loves, Samuel (Anna Clara) Chandler; his spiritual parents, Bishop Roscoe M. (Sarah Nellie) Johnson; sisters-in-love, Adele Mumford and Patricia (Crippy) Sykes; brothers-in-love, Michael Chandler, Reginald Keith, Henry C. Lillard and Robert Matthews; his loving aunts, Stella Mae Johnson, Catherine Johnson and Ocie Copes; his uncles, Dave Copes, Garfield Webster, John Johnson, Steve Johnson, Ellis Johnson, Rufus Johnson and William Johnson

and his beloved sister, Pauline Tull.

He leaves behind to carry on his legacy: his beautiful wife, Mary Alice Johnson; sons, James (Darlene) Chandler, Robert (Pamela) Chandler, Terrance (Julia) Johnson, Maquis (Krystal) Johnson, Jeremiah (Verne') Johnson and Zachariah (Krysta) Johnson; daughters, Rebecca (Quintin) Dennis, Tabitha Brown, Lakedia (Cedric) Mumford and Tanisha (Dortez) McCray, Sr.; daughter-in-love, Alisa Johnson; his only brother, Stanley (Juanita) Johnson; sisters-in-love, Sandra (Pearlis) Sturgis and Lorretta Matthews; brothers-in-love, Samuel (Shareeta) Chandler, Ulyssess Lillard, Charles (Diane) Lillard, Eddie Ray Keith and Cleveland Chandler, brother-in-love/best friend, Samuel Tull; his only living aunt, Agnes Mumford; 21 grandchildren; 11 great grandchildren; 3 great-great grandchildren, and a host of nieces, nephews, adopted children/grandchildren, and his beautiful ACJC church family.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 7. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ (Selbyville)  
38268 Derrickson Lane  
Selby Ville , DE 19975

## Visitation

JUL 8. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Calvary Pentecostal Church (Bishopville)  
13325 Worcester Hwy  
Bishopville, MD 21813

## Funeral Service

JUL 8. 12:00 PM (ET)

Calvary Pentecostal Church (Bishopville)  
13325 Worcester Hwy  
Bishopville, MD 21813

## Live Stream Broadcast on Facebook

JUL 8. 12:00 PM.

Bennie Smith Funeral Home MD / VA

*UNFORTUNATEL BISHOP JAMES JOHNSON SERVICE WILL NOT BE LIVE STREMED DUE TO TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES. WE ARE SORRY FOR THE INCONVENIEN. THANK YOU BENNIE SMITH FUNERAL OFFICE STAFF*

# Tribute Wall



“ *View and Download the Funeral Program*

Bennie Smith Funeral Home - July 05, 2024 at 05:43 PM



“ *Bennie Smith Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Bishop James Reece Johnson*



Bennie Smith Funeral Home - July 05, 2024 at 05:43 PM



“ *Leighton M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Bishop James Reece Johnson.*

Leighton M. - August 06, 2024 at 03:39 PM



“ *Love you guys bunches! Mr. James was always a kind and gentle man and a good friend to my grandparents. Chenile and I loved when ya'll came to our house to visit. Praying for you guys and sending hugs your way.*

Reshell Briddell Truitt - July 10, 2024 at 07:51 PM

SA

“ *My dear aunt MaryAlice I wanna thank u for choosing the greatest uncle in the world! I love u guys so much! I pray God heals u everywhere u hurt! Unk will be greatly missed and will never be forgotten! Love Samantha ..Douglasville Georgia*

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**Samantha** - July 08, 2024 at 05:53 PM

PA

“ *Pastors Tod & Lisa Armstrong purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Bishop James Reece Johnson.*



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**Pastors Tod & Lisa Armstrong** - July 06, 2024 at 12:38 PM

AM

“ *Praise Jesus, Johnson Family. We love you and send our prayers and condolences to you that God will comfort, strengthen and carry you through this season of grief and loss. Bishop is a beautiful soul that we were blessed to know on earth and look forward to seeing him in glory. May God cover and sustain you doing this time.*

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**Adrienne Morgan** - July 06, 2024 at 09:11 AM

SJ

“ *My deepest and sincere condolences to the family. My prayers are with you all. May the peace of God rest and abide with you all. Love Shelly Jarmon*

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**Shelly Jarmon** - July 06, 2024 at 08:54 AM

TW

“ *Sorry For Your Loss*



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**Thomas Widgeon** - July 03, 2024 at 06:39 AM

SM

“ *To Johnson family u all have my most deepest condolences on pass of ur love*

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**Sarah Mitchell** - July 01, 2024 at 12:59 PM