



Henry Lee Johnson Sr.

April 11, 1947 - March 18, 2020

~ Dad, Granddad, Brother, Mentor, and Friend ~

Henry L. Johnson, Sr., was surrounded by his family as he peacefully transitioned to his heavenly home on March 18, 2020 at 10:40 a.m. Born on April 11, 1947, in Bradenton, Florida, he was the 22nd of 27 birthed children. His parents were the late James Johnson and late Rebecca Robinson-Johnson-Lusk. This large family had lots of love and support to share.

In 1964, after graduating from Denton, Maryland's Lockerman High School, Henry married Joyce Irene Palmer, who preceded him in death. To that union, seven children were born. Henry was a diligent worker, who always believed in providing for his family. Throughout his adult life, he worked at Caroline Poultry, General Foods and as Produce Manager at IGA in Federalsburg, Maryland. He was an insurance salesman and later retired from Townsend's Poultry Plant in Millsboro, Delaware. For twelve years, Henry drove for H & L Transport, a business owned and operated by Henry Johnson, Jr. Then, for two years, Henry drove for another son, Kenneth Johnson, Sr. at PC Transportation.

Henry loved to sing for the LORD and has always been a part of gospel quartets including Gospel Six, Voices of Faith, Delaware Hummingbirds (Millsboro, Delaware), and the Gospel Souls, which consisted of his sons and nephews. His favorite songs were No Man Greater Than GOD, Time Has Made a Change, Morning Dove, and One Day at a Time.

Henry was a proud dad and grandfather who loved his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He was sure to tell each one just how proud they made him, and anyone who held a conversation with Henry for any length of time would hear his expressed love. Family time was important to him, and he did not neglect an opportunity to get together for barbecues, outings, game nights, and “just because.” For the past five years, the 2nd Saturday of August was Henry’s official “Grandchildren Celebration Day.”

Henry equally loved his Divine Destiny Church family, especially his leader and friend, Pastor Donovan Jenkins. Henry was a devoted and loyal member who asked permission before missing services. Henry sang passionately in the choir and attended men’s prayer breakfasts, Tuesday Bible Studies and Thursday prayer nights. He will be greatly missed.

Henry was the last living brother, as Thomas Johnson, Sr. went home to be with Jesus just three months ago. In addition, his son-in-law, Nathaniel Bolden Sr. preceded him in death.

To cherish fond memories, Henry leaves the following: five sons and five daughters-in-law, Henry L. Johnson, Jr. and Gladys, Lt. Colonel Andre M. Johnson, Sr. and Angelie, Kenneth A. Johnson, Sr. and Audra, Kevin Johnson, Sr. and Kim, and Keith L. Johnson, Sr. and Shawanda; two daughters, Angela D. Evans and Teresa A. Bolden; two stepdaughters, Edwina Jenkins (Donovan) and Nefertiti Jones; three sisters, Annie R. Jenkins, Janie L. Johnson and Pastor Shirley Blackwell (Deacon Robert); former spouse, Gloria Johnson; six sisters-in-law, Sharon L. Johnson, wife of the late Earl Johnson Sr., Carolyn Johnson, wife of the late Thomas Johnson, Sr., Doris A. Batson, Juanita Young, Mildred Riley (Jessie), and Bertha Gordon (Nehemiah); 35 grandchildren; 33 great grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, family, and friends. Henry, our beloved dad, granddad, brother, mentor, and friend is gone, but NEVER forgotten because he has left a living legacy of love.

Tribute Wall

MW

“ To the Johnson Family - My sincere condolences to you as you deal with the loss, yet celebrate the beautiful life of your father. I was a long time friend of Henry and Joyce; and had the distinct pleasure of teaching at least two of their sons. You all are a beautiful family! Continue with the love of family and the love of the Lord. God Bless You! And remember that "Earth has no sorrow that Heaven cannot heal." Love and Blessings to All! Sincerely, Michele Wayman

Michele Wayman - March 27, 2020 at 02:31 PM

RD

“ Have been a friend of Henry Johnson since the 7th grade/graduate together, got suspended from school together / partly together /and always had fun together and will be missed but not forgotten Class of 1966 Rodney Dobson

Rodney Dobson - March 26, 2020 at 08:33 PM

KC

“ Singing to and For the Lord

Kim Cummings - March 26, 2020 at 08:30 PM

KC

“ Always Remember you Sing to and for the Lord.

Kim Cummings - March 26, 2020 at 08:00 PM

SB

“ To the family of Henry Johnson Sr. my prayers to all.

Sylvia Bolden - March 22, 2020 at 05:06 PM

FC

“ We, the class of 1966 Lockerman High School, extend heartfelt condolences to the family. Your loved one was very special to all of us and we cherish the memories of our time in school, growing up, raising our children, but most of all making God the author and finisher of our lives. Henry served his Master and used the gift of singing praises to his God. He never hesitated to testify about the goodness of the Lord and all the blessings he received . He has left a legacy for his family and friends. This day is a day of celebration of a life well lived. Hold on to God's unchanging hand knowing that "weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning."
Frances Cephass-Coulbourn, Class Secretary

Frances Cephass-Coulbourn - March 20, 2020 at 06:38 PM

MW

“ To the Family and Friends of Brother Henry Johnson Sr. Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you, and it is still a celebration. 2 Corinthians 5: 8 "We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord." Even though you will miss him keep the memories close and the Lord closer.

Malinda Wilcox - March 19, 2020 at 08:53 AM