



Don Johnson

January 21, 1949 - April 4, 2021

On Sunday, April 4, 2021, Donald “Don” Earl Johnson, age 72, left his wonderful life on earth to ascend to his heavenly home. His beloved family was by his side.

The family will receive friends from 5-6:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 8, 2021, at Rader Funeral Home in Longview. A celebration of life will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, April 9, 2021, at Winterfield United Methodist Church, 2616 Tryon Road in Longview, with Pastor Mark Pedersen officiating. The family welcomes all who loved Don to attend.

Don was born to George and Imogene Johnson on January 21, 1949, in San Antonio, Texas. He was an honor student and outstanding athlete at Highlands High School, and received a football scholarship to Rice University, where he graduated in 1972. He later continued his education, earning a master’s degree from Stephen F. Austin State University.

Don went on to pursue a fulfilling career as an educator, football coach and Assistant Principal. He began his career at Randolph High School, followed by Pasadena Rayburn High School, Longview High School, and Pine Tree High School, where he retired in 2008. In his 35 years of teaching and coaching, Don met many people that enriched and enhanced his life.

Don joked that he moved to Longview “to marry a rich East Texas girl with an oil well.” He met Jan at the first coaching meeting of the year in 1981, and they were married four months later on November 20, 1981.

One of Don’s favorite things to do was sit in his backyard watching the birds, critters, and his Bassett Hounds. He made sure they had plenty of food and love, and he had plenty of stories to tell about them. Don was an active member of Winterfield United Methodist Church of Longview, where he taught Sunday School for many years. Being the historian he was, he enjoyed the in-depth discussions that occurred and treasured the people in the class.

Don was preceded in death by his parents, George and Imogene Johnson; stepfather, William "HoHo" Clark; brother, Norman Johnson; brother-in-law, Johnny McGibeny; and mother-in-law, Dortha Elliott.

Left to love and cherish Don's memory are his wife, Jan; daughter, Megan Johnson; son and daughter-in-law, Jordan and Brittany Johnson; grandchildren, Maddix and Maisyn Johnson; sister, Nurrie McGibeny; sister-in-law, Judy Johnson; stepbrother, William "Little Bill" Clark, Jr.; Randy & Ann Brogoitti; Dennis & Jackie McMahan; Tom & Gina Burk; Quentin & Julie Woods; Clint & Erin Brogoitti; and numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and great-nephews.

The family wishes special thanks to loving friends: Coach Robert & Gloria Bero, Coach Mark & Cindy Comfort, Coach Doug & Jane Cox, Coach Larry & Sherry Cloninger, the Winterfield Methodist Fellowship Class, hospice nurse Michelle Hollingsworth, caregiver Marilyn McLeod, and the kind staff at Heart to Heart Hospice.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested remembrances be made to Winterfield United Methodist Church, Asbury House Enrichment Center, or the charity of your choice.

Events

APR **Visitation** 05:00PM - 06:30PM

8

Chapel of Rader Funeral Home
1617 Judson Rd., Longview, TX, US

APR **Memorial Service** 01:00PM

9

Winterfield United Methodist Church
2616 Tryon Rd, Longview, TX, US, 75605-4122

Comments



“ Coach Johnson is the reason that I am who I am today. I wish I would have expressed that to him but lost touch over the years. He wrote my letter of recommendation to get into ROTC at Rice when I went to Pine Tree High School. I am now a lieutenant Commander in the Navy. I still cannot watch Forrest Gump without smiling in memory of his class. Rest In Peace, love you Coach!

Allison Appelhans - April 13, 2021 at 11:01 PM



“ Beautiful, Thank you,
Jan Johnson

jan johnson - May 21, 2021 at 09:09 PM



“ Beautiful, Thank you, Jan Johnson

jan johnson - May 21, 2021 at 09:09 PM



“ Jan and Family,
Rob and I were sorry to hear about Don's passing. You are in our prayers. Isaiah 41:10 "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."
Love you,
The other "Jan" Dooley Byrd

Jan Byrd - April 13, 2021 at 12:17 PM



“ Thank you

jan johnson - May 21, 2021 at 09:12 PM



“ Condolences and prayers to all. I have great memories of Don from high school and before that playing on the same team in little league. Rest in Peace, Don.

Charlie Bobbish
Burlington, MA

Charlie Bobbish - April 09, 2021 at 11:58 AM



“ Thank you

jan johnson - May 21, 2021 at 09:13 PM



“ Dear Jan, Megan, Jordan and family,
Our hearts go out to all of you at this time of loss. Don was such a wonderful man and example to all the young men he coached & students he taught, including a couple of ours, throughout his career. We always enjoyed seeing him, as he always had a big smile on his face and kind words to say. Our caring thoughts with your entire family as you grieve his passing, but we pray for God's comfort to surround you as you have the assurance of being reunited again with him in heaven. Lots of love to all of you.



Sandra and Gary Cole - April 08, 2021 at 12:10 PM



“ Thank you

jan johnson - May 21, 2021 at 09:13 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Don Johnson.



April 08, 2021 at 01:50 AM



“ Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Don Johnson.



April 07, 2021 at 10:27 PM



“ Coach Johnson was a GA at Rice and my line coach my freshman year there. Great man, often ran in to him when I was coaching and when we were working on our masters at SFASU. He was always full of wisdom. Am very sorry for your loss.

Scott Moss

Scott Moss - April 07, 2021 at 11:10 AM



“ Beautiful Scott! He , I know loved visiting with you.
Jan Johnson

jan johnson - April 07, 2021 at 09:05 PM



“ My heartfelt condolences to you all. Many of us have fond memories of Coach Johnson at LHS. He was a cherished teacher and so fun. A great loss, indeed. Praying for peace and comfort for you all during this time. God Bless.

Leanne Atwood - April 06, 2021 at 11:29 PM



“ Thanks, lovely

jan johnson - April 07, 2021 at 09:06 PM



“ Jan, I am sad to learn of Don's death. But I rejoice to know that he is in such a wonderful place now. I want you to know that you & your family are in my thoughts & prayers. I always looked forward to seeing you & Don at Sunday school & to listen to his teaching the weekly lesson. God bless & keep you & give you comfort & shelter in His Love. Anne

Anne Newman - April 10, 2021 at 11:25 AM



“ Thank you

Anne you were always so precious to us!
Blessings and love

jan johnson - May 21, 2021 at 09:15 PM



“ Jan and family,
Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this very difficult time of loss. May your strong faith in God, family and friends sustain you.

Bob and Pam Hickerson - April 06, 2021 at 08:26 PM



“ Beautiful

jan johnson - April 07, 2021 at 09:06 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Don Johnson.



April 06, 2021 at 03:45 PM



“ To Jan and family I send prayers and thoughts as you face this time of sorrow. Don was always a special person to me as I knew him and all of you for so many years with our working together for LISD. Your friendship always meant a great deal to me. For the past several years I've been totally unable to walk, so can't go out at all due to this fact and other problems with my MS. You are in my memories, and I love you as Don joins our Lord and Savior. God bless each of you.
Mary Faith Hatley

Mary Faith Hatley - April 06, 2021 at 02:30 PM



“ How special
Where are you? I want to visit

jan johnson - April 07, 2021 at 09:08 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Don Johnson.



April 06, 2021 at 01:14 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Don Johnson.



April 06, 2021 at 11:27 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Don Johnson.



April 06, 2021 at 11:26 AM



“ Sherry Paull- Guild Mortgage Co purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Don Johnson.



Sherry Paull- Guild Mortgage Co - April 06, 2021 at 11:11 AM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Don Johnson.



April 06, 2021 at 10:27 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Don Johnson.



April 06, 2021 at 10:20 AM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Don Johnson.



April 05, 2021 at 09:58 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Don Johnson.



April 05, 2021 at 08:52 PM