



Richard Ray Johnson

October 28, 2016

Richard Johnson, 70, of Oskaloosa, passed away Friday evening, October 28, 2016, surrounded by his family at the MHP Hospice Serenity House in Oskaloosa. Richard Ray Johnson was born, October 31, 1945, in Oskaloosa to Ray Burdick and Florence Rozella (Hays) Johnson. He was raised on farms near Olivet, Bussey, and Oskaloosa and completed Oskaloosa High School. Richard furthered his education at Iowa State University and in 1967 graduated with an agricultural education degree. Soon after graduation, he married the love-of-his-life, Betty Jo Peterson, on June 22, 1967, in Harcourt, Iowa. His first job took the couple to Latimer, IA, where he served as a vocational agriculture teacher in CAL Community Schools. After a year there, they moved to Washington, Iowa where Richard took a position with Iowa State Extension as the 4-H Youth Director for Washington and Johnson Counties. He was soon promoted to the Monroe County Extension Director in Albia, IA where he served from 1970-1973. In March 1973, the family moved to the Johnson Family Century farm in Scott Township, Mahaska County, to become a full-time farmer. In later years his passion became bulldozing as he enjoyed improving his farmland. Richard loved visiting with his family and friends. He was a member of the Ebenezer Reformed Church in Leighton where he served as a Sunday school teacher, deacon, and elder. His ability as a leader was evident early when he was elected Oskaloosa FFA President his senior year in high school and was an Iowa FFA Degree Recipient. At ISU, he was president of Norman House dormitory. He went on to serve as

Mahaska Farm Service President and Mahaska County Farm Bureau President. His family includes his wife, Betty, of 49 years; his children and their spouses: Thomas and Aichatou Johnson of Niger, Africa, Julie and Scott Baumler of Lisbon, IA; Michael and Adrienne Johnson of Oskaloosa, and eight grandchildren: Katelyn, Jenna, and Megan Baumler, Marie-Florence, Laurey and Elisabeth Johnson and Alivia and Max Johnson, and a soon-to-arrive baby, to be born to Tom and Aichatou; three sisters: Sandy Baker of Ames, Sue Ryun of Oskaloosa and Sally Hardy of Knoxville. Richard was preceded in death by his parents. Funeral Services for Richard will be held at 10 a.m., Tuesday, Nov. 1, at the Ebenezer Reformed Church in Leighton with Rev. Mark Jicinsky officiating. A family prayer service will be held at 9:40 a.m. in the church chapel prior to the service. Burial will be in Rochester Cemetery in Scott Township, Mahaska County. Visitation will begin at 11 a.m., Monday, at Garland-Van Arkel-Langkamp Funeral Chapel in Oskaloosa; the family will be at the funeral chapel from 5- 7:30 p.m. Monday to greet family and friends. Memorials may be made to Words of Hope radio ministry and Child Evangelism. Memories and condolences can be sent to the family by visiting the online guestbook at gvlfuneralchapel.com.

Tribute Wall



“ *Richard Ray Johnson*

October 05, 2023 at 11:57 PM



“ *Betty and Family We are so sorry to hear of Richard's passing. We were grateful for the time spend with you both in September while we were visiting in Iowa. It was nice to get one last hug from Richard, my cousin. It has been a comfort to me to know that you have resided in my old family home and kept it and the farm looking so nice. May Richard now rest in Peace. God Bless you all and give you strength during this difficult period, and for always. Kay (Johnson) and Horst Hahne, Canberra, Australia*

November 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ *Julie and family, We are sending our deepest condolences to you. Praying for comfort and strength in this difficult time.*

Julie and Hutch Kracht - November 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ *Betty, So sorry to here of the passing of Richard. It's been many years since we have seen you. My prayers are with all the family. Hopefully I can come see you soon. At least we know God has taken him home. Know more pain. Hugs.*

Cheryl Eissens - November 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM

LB

“ Dear Family of Richard Johnson, Sincere sympathy to you all in the passing of your loved one. I remember Richard as a young boy a few years younger than me when his mom was my teacher at Greeley School. I have many fond memories of those simple times. God be with you in the days ahead. Ted and Louise Binns
BursonManistique, MI

Louise Burson - November 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM

BC

“ Tom and Family, Please accept my deepest condolences on the loss of your father, father and grandfather. I know that Tom spoke so highly of the influence that his father had upon him during the course of his life. I got to know Tom during his involvement at Grad-IV and URC during the years he spent at MSU in East Lansing. I greatly appreciated Tom as a committed Christian believer, along with his gracious hospitality during that time in his life. Having lost my father and mother in 2012, I know how it feels to lose a parent. However, I am so grateful to God for them and I know that Tom also expressed that same sentiment a number of times to me, as well as to others. As sad as it can be to lose a loved one, you can take comfort in the fact that his father loved and served the Lord, which means that he and others in his family will one day be reunited with him again in the presence of our Lord Jesus. Again, my deepest condolences to all of you in this time of loss. May the Lord comfort and encourage you through his life and example to you, as well as to others. Sincerely,

Bruce Crew - October 31, 2016 at 12:00 AM

BC

“ Tom, my deepest condolences to you and your family upon the loss of your father. Praise God that you were able to make it home in time to spend the last 2-3 hours of his life before he went home to be with Jesus. May the Lord comfort you and your family at this time in knowing that while he is absent from the body, he is finally at home with the Lord. God bless you. Sincerely, Bruce Crew (fellow Grad-IVer and URC attender)

Bruce Crew - October 31, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ Betty and Family, I am so sorry for your loss. Rich was such a wonderful man--friendly, energetic, and caring. Although I only saw him a couple times a year, he always asked how things were going and it was easy to pick up a meaningful conversation. I wish you peace and many happy and warm memories.

Shelly Ver Ploeg - October 31, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Jayne Wingo - October 30, 2016 at 12:00 AM

LH

“ Dear Tom and families, Your dad was so special. I am praying that the Lord will comfort your hearts today and blesses your lives with treasured memories of your loved one in the years to come. With deepest sympathy for your loss. Love and prayers, Lavina Hoogeveen

Lavina Hoogeveen - October 30, 2016 at 12:00 AM

BJ

“ We rejoice with you Tom and your family that you made it in time to celebrate his departure so meaningfully. We pray God's blessing upon your family reunion, the last gift your father gave to you. WPC mission committee. member

Barbara Johnson - October 30, 2016 at 12:00 AM

GA

“ Offering our deepest condolences during this difficult time.

Garland - October 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

KW

“ Julie and Family, you have my heartfelt sympathy in the passing of your Dad. May your precious memories be of great comfort to you.

Kristy Wilcoxson - October 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ My sincere sympathy to each of you on the passing of Richard Johnson. Isaiah 57:1,2 come to mind when I read his obituary. (My husband and I first met Tom before he left for Niger when he spoke at Elim Church, Kings, IL.) Praying for each of you to be comforted.
Marie Hopkins

Marie Hopkins - October 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM