



Don G. Johnson

December 20, 1932 - January 14, 2017

NORFOLK -- Funeral service for Don G. Johnson, 84, of Pierce, formerly of Pilger will be held at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, January 21, 2017 at the First United Methodist Church in Norfolk with the Rev. Dustin Petz officiating. A private family burial will be held at the Rose Hill Cemetery, rural Albion. Visitation will be held 4:00-7:00 p.m., Friday, Jan. 20 at the Stonacek Funeral Chapel in Norfolk. Military rites will be conducted by the American Legion Post #162, V.F.W. Post #736 both of Albion, and the United States Air Force Honor Guard. Don passed away Saturday, January 14, 2017 at the Norfolk Veterans Home.

Stonacek Funeral Chapel in Norfolk is in charge of the arrangements.

Don was born Dec. 20, 1932, at the Methodist Hospital in Omaha to Oscar and Ona (Mansfield) Johnson. He was baptized and confirmed at the Albion United Methodist Church and grew up in Albion, where he loved farming with his dad and brother. Don graduated from Albion High School and from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln with a degree in agriculture. He was a member of the Farm House Fraternity, ROTC, and he also played the trumpet as a member of the Cornhusker Marching Band for four years.

After graduating from college, Don proudly served as a 2nd Lieutenant officer in the U.S. Air Force. He served during the Korean War from Sept. 14, 1954, to Sept. 13, 1957.

He married his childhood sweetheart Virginia "Ginny" Barnes on Oct. 25, 1959, at United Methodist Church in Albion. Following his years in the Air

Force, Don became a territory manager for Dekalb Seed in Central Iowa, where his keen knowledge of agriculture and his ability to work with people earned an invitation in 1962 to work at the Cooper family owned bank (Farmers National Bank) in Pilger.

Don became president of the Farmers National Bank in 1964. The bank's name was changed to Midwest Bank in 1997 and has expanded into 10 Nebraska communities.

Don was an active member of the Nebraska Bankers Association, serving on numerous committees and as the NBA president in 1983. Don also served on national committees for the American Bankers Association, The Federal Home Loan Bank and The Federal Reserve Bank. He was also a trustee for the Graduate School of Banking of Colorado.

Don served as a member of the American Legion in Pilger for 46 years. Don was an active community leader in the village of Pilger and a faithful member of the Pilger United Methodist Church for 46 years. Area boards Don served on were the Northeast Community College Foundation Board, Faith Regional Hospital Foundation Board, Dinklage Foundation Board and the Indian Trials Country Club Board.

After retiring in 2005, Don continued to serve as an advisory director for Midwest Bank.

Don and Ginny moved to Pierce in June of 2008.

Don enjoyed golfing, Husker sports, spending time with his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and attending all of their events. Survivors include his spouse, Virginia "Ginny" Johnson of Pierce; a daughter, Lori (Mike) Minert of Pender; a daughter, Karen (Ryan) Rathke of Grand Island; a son, Douglas (Stacy) Johnson of Pierce; grandchildren: Megan (Roger) Ray, Drew Minert, McKenzie (Reid) Ely, Garrett Rathke, Jenna (Andrew) Mitchell, Jordan Rathke, Hannah Rathke, Ashton Johnson, Ali Johnson, Annie Johnson and Addison Johnson; great-grandchildren: Carter and Charlie Ray, Kylar Ely, Broxton Ely, Liam Ely, Madyn Ely; a sister-in-law, Doris Johnson of Albion; a brother-in-law, Dick (Penny) Barnes of Phillips; and

a sister-in-law, Mary (J.V.) Nicodemus of Atlanta, Ga.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Oscar and Ona Johnson; a sister, Jeanne (Gale) Jacobsen; a brother, Tom Johnson; and a brother-in-law, John Barnes.

Organist will be Steve Reinke and soloist will be Linda Boullion. Trumpeter will be Cody Schnabel. Songs for the service are "Amazing Grace" , "How Great Thou Art" , "Because He Lives" , " On Eagles Wings."

Casket bearers will be Don's grandchildren: Megan Ray, Garrett Rathke, Jenna Mitchell, Drew Minert, McKenzie Ely, Jordan Rathke, Ashton Johnson, Ali Johnson, Hannah Rathke, Annie Johnson and Addison Johnson.

Condolences may be expressed to the family online at stonacekfuneralchapel.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN **20**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Stonacek Funeral Chapel - Norfolk
1200 N.13th St.
Norfolk, NE 68701
(402) 371-7676
info@stonacekfuneralchapel.com
<https://stonacekfuneralchapel.com/>

Service

JAN **21**. 10:30 AM (CT)

First United Methodist Church - Norfolk
406 West Phillip Ave.
Norfolk, NE 68701
<http://www.norfolkumc.org/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Don G. Johnson*

October 05, 2023 at 03:46 AM



“ *Ginny: So sorry to hear about Don's passing!!! Debbie & I and you and Don had some great times together at NBA functions. It was also nice to talk to you at Walmart a few days ago. Don & Deb*

Don Blaha & Debbie Anderson - January 24, 2017 at 08:55 AM



“ *Ginny, Lori, Karen, Doug, and families,*

I just learned of Don's passing and am sorry I wasn't able to be there for the celebration of his life. I will always remember his smile and the twinkle in his eyes as he made a witty comment. I remember one evening when Lori and I were working diligently on our science fair projects that were due the next day. Don and Lori stopped by our house to borrow something around 10 P.M. and Don greeted us, "Good evening, fellow scientists!". His sense of humor and charm brought so much joy to those around him. Our family has many fond memories of Don. God bless all of you as you adjust to the loss.

Love,

Nancy Lambert Schlegelmilch

Nancy Schlegelmilch - January 23, 2017 at 10:47 AM

JE

“ Lori, Karen, Ginny, and Doug my condolences to and your families. Don will be truly missed. I remember him as a warm person with a caring heart.

Jeanne Davis Harder

Jeanne - January 22, 2017 at 05:39 PM

TS

“ Dear Family,

I met Don through the United Methodist Church since we shared a pastor between Stanton and Pilger. My favorite story told by Don, a very dangerous situation, was of the bank robbery in Pilger. Don said the robbers walked right past his office in the back of the bank, not seeing him. He said he had a pistol in his desk drawer. I asked him if he would have used the gun and he replied "not unless they would have started shooting." If I remember correctly, an employee of the bank slipped out the side door without the robbers seeing him either. I'm glad noone was hurt. Don was a great guy who will be sorely missed. May God bless all of you at this difficult time in your lives.

Terry and Gloria Spence

Terry and Gloria Spence - January 20, 2017 at 03:31 PM

DH

“ . I was so sorry to hear of Don's passing. I always enjoyed visiting with him and getting his opinions about banking, husker sports and other topics.(Don ALWAYS had an opinion!) My thoughts are with you all. Don Ham

Don Ham - January 19, 2017 at 10:00 PM

FB

“ *Ginny. Don and you were some of my best Banking friends. We had similar backgrounds and always shared our interests. Our sympathy and Best Wishes to the family of a good friend.*

Frank and Mary Bruning

Frank L Bruning - January 18, 2017 at 03:46 PM

AA

“ *Our deepest condolences to Ginny, Lori, Karen, Doug & families. May your faith guide you through this time. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.*

Joey Hausmann, Matt Schendt & Hausmann Construction Team

Ashley Abramson - January 18, 2017 at 10:58 AM



“ *Glorious Grace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Don G. Johnson.*



January 17, 2017 at 03:16 PM

LC

“ Ginny, My deepest sympathy to you and your family. I have so many wonderful memories of Don. Dave Johnson introduced me to him over 40 years ago in the Omaha National Bank days. Then during the NBA meetings and golfing events , I got to know Don much better. His leadership in banking locally, state and on a national basis reflected the highest character and integrity. I will always remember the fun times . We are in Tucson for the winter so will not be able to attend the services but wanted you to know our thoughts and prayers are with you Larry & Lucy Comine

Larry Comine - January 17, 2017 at 03:07 PM

T'

“ The Class of '85 purchased the Simply Elegant S pathiphyllum for the family of Don G. Johnson.



The Class of '85 - January 17, 2017 at 02:52 PM



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



January 17, 2017 at 01:29 PM

TB

“ Tony, Don, and all at Redstone Bank purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Don G. Johnson.



Tony, Don, and all at Redstone Bank - January 17, 2017 at 10:25 AM

MD

“ Growing up south of Pilger and frequenting our Grandparents' store "in town", we could always rely on the friendly smile of Don on as he would greet us. . He always knew "which sister" I was and called me by name! He was a pillar of the community for decades

May his family and friends draw closer to our God as He is always there for you. It is holding onto His merit of eternal life in heaven for all who believe in Him that brings comfort. We do not weep as those who have no hope.

Peace to you, Ginny, Lori, Karen, Doug and families from the Holy Spirit Who is our Comforter..

*Peace in Jesus,
Brian & Marcia [Goeller] Davis*

Marcia Goeller Davis - January 17, 2017 at 07:57 AM