



Duane Johnson

May 28, 1951 - October 12, 2017

Duane Johnson, 66 year old resident of Swanville, MN, passed away on Thursday, October 12, 2017 in Randall, MN. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11 AM on Wednesday, October 18th at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Swanville, with Fr. Ron Dockendorf officiating. Burial will be at St. John The Baptist Catholic Cemetery in Swanville. Visitation will be from 4 to 8 PM on Tuesday and from 10 to 11 AM Wednesday, both at the church. Arrangements are with Shelley Funeral Chapel in Swanville, MN.

Duane was born on May 28, 1951 in Little Falls, MN to the late Leonard and Donna (Pfaff) Johnson. He grew up in Swanville, MN where he attended Swanville Schools and graduated from Swanville High School. He enlisted in the U.S Army and proudly served his country from 1970 until his honorable discharge in 1972. Duane was united in marriage to Joyce Plakut on May 15, 1976 at St. Stanislaus Catholic Church in Sobieski, MN. The couple made their home in Swanville and were blessed with four children, Bradley, Karla, Matthew, and Kelsey. Over the years he was employed at Grain Belt, Sanitary Milk and Ice Cream, Gessell Feed Mill, Kuepers Construction and he owned and operated Johnson Stump Removal. Duane was an extremely devoted husband, father and community member. His commitment to his fellow neighbors and city and county residents was second to none. He dedicated much of his time to the Swanville American Legion, Swanville Lions, Swanville Planning and Zoning, Morrison County Relay For Life, St. John the Baptist

Catholic Church and Morrison County and the City of Swanville, MN. Duane was elected as Swanville Mayor in 1989 and served until 2006. He was active in the Swanville Lions Clubs for over 30 years where he served as past president, secretary and received many local and national awards through the years as a Lion. Duane was elected as Morrison County Commissioner on November 7, 2006. He was sworn into office on January 9, 2007 and proudly represented the citizens of District 5 until his death on October 12, 2017. Commissioner Johnson served as Chairman of the County Board in 2011 and 2013 and represented Morrison County on many committees including; South County Health Alliance, Region 5 Development Commission, Mississippi Headwaters Board, the Morrison County Yellow Ribbon, Community Health Services Executive Committee, Community Corrections Advisory Board, Drug Court Steering Committee, Morrison County Rural Development Finance Authority, Community Development and much more. Duane saw the organization and County through many years of change and growth. His leadership, willingness to serve, friendly and personable approach was appreciated by staff and those who served with him through the years. Though Duane spent many endless hours attending meetings and making sure they ran smoothly, nothing made him happier than being around his wife, children, grandchildren and all the child care children. To relax he would retire to his camper on Long Lake and just enjoy the quiet it had to offer. Duane will forever be remembered for the love and dedication he showed to family, friends, and his community.

Duane is survived by loving wife Joyce Johnson of Swanville, MN; children, Bradley (Gina) Johnson of Swanville, MN, Karla (Brian) Montag of Sauk Rapids, MN, Matthew (Kalyn) Johnson of Swanville, MN and Kelsey Johnson of Swanville, MN; siblings, Roland (Beverly) Johnson of Upsala, MN, Harvey (Judy) Johnson of Swanville, MN, Bruce (Lynn) Johnson of Swanville, MN, Linda (Bob) Feuling of Rice, MN and Kenny (Julie) Johnson of Breckenridge, MN; grandchildren, Aiden, Sophia, and Ella Montag.

Duane was preceded in death by parents, Leonard and Donna Johnson.

Cemetery Details

St. John the Baptist Cemetery - Swanville, MN

Swanville, MN

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 17. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

St. John's Catholic Church - Swanville
12 First Street
Swanville, MN

Visitation

OCT 18. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. John's Catholic Church - Swanville
12 First Street
Swanville, MN

Service

OCT 18. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. John's Catholic Church - Swanville
12 First Street
Swanville, MN

Tribute Wall



“ *Lemieur Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Duane Johnson*



Lemieur Funeral Homes - October 16, 2017 at 01:33 PM



Cheryal Hills

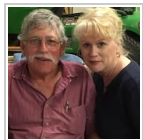
In total Duane served on Region Five Development Commission for over 10 years and we have all come to respect his wisdom and cherish his smile and laugh. When R5DC moved offices Duane brought Joyce and a son to help us move boxes...he was part of our organizational family and his leadership made us all the better. This is a terrible loss for our region, my heart is heavy and we send our deepest sympathy's to Joyce and family.

Cheryal Hills - October 16, 2017 at 08:06 PM



“ *Duane Johnson*

January 21, 2023 at 11:59 AM



“ *Judy Berger lit a candle in memory of Duane Johnson*



Judy Berger - October 21, 2017 at 08:01 AM

SM

“ Steve And Annette Messerschmidt lit a candle
in memory of Duane Johnson



Steve and Annette Messerschmidt - October 17, 2017 at 09:46 PM

KK

“ Karen Koester lit a candle in memory of
Duane Johnson



Karen Koester - October 17, 2017 at 08:27 PM

CE

“ Collette And Vern Ehrenberg lit a candle in
memory of Duane Johnson



Collette and Vern Ehrenberg - October 17, 2017 at 03:38 PM

LM

“ Lois Mechels lit a candle in memory of Duane
Johnson



Lois Mechels - October 17, 2017 at 11:19 AM

LM

“ Duane was someone I wish I could have personally got to know for my own reasons. I understand what a great person you were and that made me happy. Now you will be with someone special in heaven. Lois Mechels

Lois Mechels - October 17, 2017 at 11:18 AM



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



October 17, 2017 at 11:14 AM



“ Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Duane Johnson.



October 17, 2017 at 08:56 AM

JK

“ Our thoughts and prayers to Duane's family. So sad to hear of his passing. Jim and Nancy Koetter.



jim koetter - October 16, 2017 at 08:50 PM

RP

“ Rick & Marilyn Pfaff & Ron & Julie Pfaff(cousin's) purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Duane Johnson.



Rick & Marilyn Pfaff & Ron & Julie Pfaff(cousin's) - October 16, 2017 at 06:59 PM

SH

“ Sheryl and Travis Hedin purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Duane Johnson.



Sheryl and Travis Hedin - October 16, 2017 at 06:33 PM

DJ

“ Not only an amazing Uncle but also a friend. Duane I will miss your smiles, your sense of humor, your laugh and everything about you. Please give grandpa and grandma hug from me. You will forever be in my heart. I love you!

Dawn Janssen - October 16, 2017 at 05:08 PM

YP

“ Your Friends & Colleagues at Northern Pines purchased the Summer's Light Bouquet for the family of Duane Johnson.



Your Friends & Colleagues at Northern Pines - October 16, 2017 at 05:05 PM

KO

“ *The American Cancer Society is so grateful for all the years Duane dedicated to the Relay For Life of Morrison County and Daffodil Days. Kim Orn*

Kim Orn - October 16, 2017 at 04:57 PM

LP

“ *Linda Paycer lit a candle in memory of Duane Johnson*



Linda Paycer - October 16, 2017 at 03:50 PM

KP

“ *Karl & Shari Pung lit a candle in memory of Duane Johnson*



Karl & Shari Pung - October 16, 2017 at 03:47 PM

YS

“ *your family at Styrotech purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Duane Johnson.*



your family at Styrotech - October 16, 2017 at 02:59 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Duane Johnson.*



October 16, 2017 at 01:06 PM



“ *Mississippi Headdwaters Board purchased the E nchanted Cottage for the family of Duane Johnson.*



Mississippi Headdwaters Board - October 16, 2017 at 12:42 PM



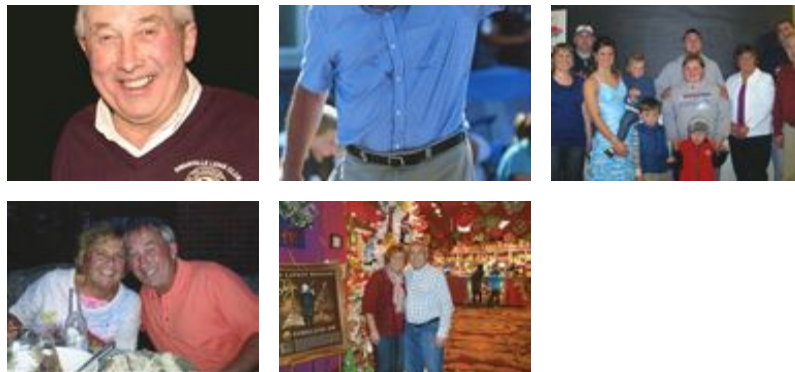
“ *Heartfelt Memories was purchased for the family of Duane Johnson.*



October 16, 2017 at 12:39 PM



“ 66 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Lemieur Funeral Homes - October 16, 2017 at 12:26 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Duane Johnson.*



October 16, 2017 at 12:03 PM



“ *Our deepest sympathy to all of your family, Duane always stopped to say hi when he went by our house with his golf cart. He was always the go to guy if you needed to find out something. God Bless all of you. Dennis & Brenda Schmidt*

Dennis & Brenda Schmidt - October 16, 2017 at 11:15 AM

AF

“ Allen-Tammy Frieler lit a candle in memory of Duane Johnson



Allen-Tammy Frieler - October 16, 2017 at 10:53 AM



“ I met Duane initially through the Region Five Development Commission. Every time we would meet there after he would smile and take the time to inquire how I was doing. He was one of the good guys always working hard for the benefit of the county. He was interested in others opinions, willing to listen and an asset to Morrison County. He will be greatly missed.

Ann Hanson

Ann Hanson - October 16, 2017 at 10:30 AM

MM

“ Michelle M. purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Duane Johnson.



Michelle M. - October 16, 2017 at 10:20 AM

MA

“ *Mark Anderson lit a candle in memory of Duane Johnson*



Mark Anderson - October 16, 2017 at 09:41 AM

SN

“ *I have known Duane since 1999, when I worked for the Region V Development Commission. I continued to run into him through my work even after leaving Region V, and every time he greeted me with a smile and friendly hello. He was a devoted, community driven man who worked hard to defend rural Minnesotans. I am so saddened to hear of his death. He was a dedicated man, and so very, very nice.*

Sharon Notch

Sharon Notch - October 16, 2017 at 08:22 AM

TW

“ *Shocked and saddened to hear of Duane's passing. Deepest sympathies to his family. People who give as much to his community as Duane did are exceedingly rare.*

Tom West

Tom West - October 15, 2017 at 08:49 PM



“ *Sandy and my heartfelt sympathy go out to Joyce and the rest of Duane's family. As a fellow elected official and friend I always cherished the great advice that Duane always gave me. His support of veterans was always in the forefront also.*

*Danny L. Noss
CW3, USA, Ret
Mayor of Randall*



Danny Noss - October 15, 2017 at 06:56 PM

JW

“ *I had the pleasure of knowing Duane and serving with him on the CMCC Executive Committee and Board for 10 years. Duane was a great Commissioner and wonderful person -- I will miss our conversations and "comparing notes". My sympathy to Duane's family and colleagues .. Mark Wedel, Aitkin County Commissioner*



J. Mark Wedel - October 15, 2017 at 06:45 PM

HM

“ *Helen McLennan lit a candle in memory of Duane Johnson*



Helen McLennan - October 15, 2017 at 01:41 PM

JP

“ Jean And Gary Pallansch lit a candle in memory of Duane Johnson



Jean and Gary Pallansch - October 15, 2017 at 01:35 PM

JB

“ John & Char Berns lit a candle in memory of Duane Johnson



John & Char Berns - October 15, 2017 at 12:52 PM

PS

“ Patty And Dean Savor lit a candle in memory of Duane Johnson



Patty and Dean Savor - October 15, 2017 at 12:00 PM

MC

“ Margurite Cofell lit a candle in memory of Duane Johnson



Margurite Cofell - October 15, 2017 at 06:26 AM

FK

“ Frank And Lori Kraska lit a candle in memory of Duane Johnson



Frank and Lori Kraska - October 14, 2017 at 08:13 PM

TL

“ Terry Lehrke lit a candle in memory of Duane Johnson



Terry Lehrke - October 14, 2017 at 07:24 PM

HD

“ Harvey And Diana lit a candle in memory of Duane Johnson



Harvey and Diana - October 14, 2017 at 05:48 PM

LF

“ Joyce, so shocked and sad to hear about Duane. Prayers are with you.



Louise and Mike Frank - October 14, 2017 at 04:25 PM



“ *Sapphire Skies Bouquet was purchased for the family of Duane Johnson.*



October 14, 2017 at 03:55 PM



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



October 14, 2017 at 02:56 PM



“ *Brad And Becky lit a candle in memory of Duane Johnson*



Brad and Becky - October 14, 2017 at 02:44 PM



“ *Debby Lambrecht lit a candle in memory of Duane Johnson*



Debby Lambrecht - October 14, 2017 at 01:46 PM

SS

“ *A great American, friend of Camp Ripley, and cherished civil servant.*



Scott St. Sauver - October 14, 2017 at 01:43 PM

RF

“ *Rosemary Franzen lit a candle in memory of Duane Johnson*



Rosemary Franzen - October 14, 2017 at 12:00 PM

LE

“ *Gregg & Leone Chirhart*



Leone - October 14, 2017 at 11:33 AM

LJ

“ *My deepest sympathy Joyce and family.*



Lorraine Suszka Janski - October 14, 2017 at 10:03 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Duane Johnson.* ”



October 14, 2017 at 09:04 AM



“ *Mark And Deb Sieben lit a candle in memory of Duane Johnson* ”



Mark and Deb Sieben - October 14, 2017 at 08:25 AM



“ *Janal Kruzel lit a candle in memory of Duane Johnson* ”



Janal Kruzel - October 14, 2017 at 07:36 AM



“ *Chuck Forss lit a candle in memory of Duane Johnson* ”



Chuck Forss - October 14, 2017 at 01:00 AM

SW

“ *Stan Dee Wielinski lit a candle in memory of Duane Johnson*



Stan Dee Wielinski - October 14, 2017 at 12:53 AM



“ *Larry Laliberte lit a candle in memory of Duane Johnson*



Larry Laliberte - October 14, 2017 at 12:24 AM

JZ

“ *Jerry And Kathy Zyvoloski lit a candle in memory of Duane Johnson*



jerry and kathy zyvoloski - October 13, 2017 at 11:19 PM

BM

“ *Joyce & family, we are so sorry for your loss. Duane was a gentle man & a gentleman, with so many great qualities. He was always willing to listen &/or talk with us & everyone around him. He usually had a smile on his face too. He was a great asset to his Swanville community & to Morrison County. He will be greatly missed.*
Keith Manbeck & Betsy Tepley

Betsy Tepley & Keith Manbeck - October 13, 2017 at 11:17 PM

PC

“ Pam Czech lit a candle in memory of Duane Johnson



Pam Czech - October 13, 2017 at 11:01 PM

PL

“ Pooder & Kim Lashinski lit a candle in memory of Duane Johnson



Pooder & Kim Lashinski - October 13, 2017 at 09:19 PM



“ Amanda Kaping lit a candle in memory of Duane Johnson



Amanda Kaping - October 13, 2017 at 08:31 PM



“ Brenda Baum lit a candle in memory of Duane Johnson



Brenda Baum - October 13, 2017 at 08:29 PM

GC

“Joyce and family— I have been trying to find the words to express my sympathy at the loss of Duane. I shall forever remember his commitment to family and community. Duane was a strong leader who always led with his heart. He would do everything he could to make the community brighter, stronger, and more friendly. He will be missed by many. My deepest condolences.

Gina Christopherson - October 13, 2017 at 08:18 PM



“Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Duane Johnson.



October 13, 2017 at 08:15 PM

DL

“Doug & Rita LeMieur lit a candle in memory of Duane Johnson



Doug & Rita LeMieur - October 13, 2017 at 08:12 PM



“ *My sympathy and prayers go out to Joyce and all of Duane's family and friends. I really enjoyed working with Duane over the past few years. He always had a huge smile, was friendly, and so energetic. Sometimes, it was like, "slow down so I can talk to you". HA!HA!. Duane was so supportive of veterans and family programs. We worked a lot together with the Yellow Ribbon Network and several events for veterans. The most memorable was last year, we hosted a Vietnam Commemoration ceremony in Swanville. In the Army, I always thought our best leaders, were ones who cared about their troops. The ones who weren't afraid to roll up their sleeves and work with their Soldiers. That's exactly what Duane did, he was right by my side, preparing, setting up, hosting the program and cleaning up after. He most definitely didn't have to do so much, but that's the type of person he was. Not only a leader in his community, but a friend, hard worker and team member. It was an honor and pleasure working with him. I appreciate all his efforts over the years. I also appreciate the goodies he his wife Joyce would make, and he would share with us. He and his family definitely know how to cook.*

We at the Morrison County Veterans Service Office, thank Duane for his service as a veteran. Additionally, we thank him for all his hard work supporting many community veterans, their families, and organizations.

*Kathy Marshik and staff
Morrison County Veterans Service Office*

Kathy Marshik - October 13, 2017 at 08:12 PM

SK

You wrote a beautiful article kathy

Shirley kuchinski - October 15, 2017 at 05:52 PM

RS

“ Rosie And Jim Solorz lit a candle in memory of Duane Johnson



Rosie and Jim Solorz - October 13, 2017 at 08:06 PM



“ Kathy Marshik lit a candle in memory of Duane Johnson



Kathy Marshik - October 13, 2017 at 07:52 PM

BB

“ Brian & Denise Boser lit a candle in memory of Duane Johnson



Brian & Denise Boser - October 13, 2017 at 07:30 PM

WW

“ Joyce and Family, I am so sorry to hear of Duanes passing! Sending Prayers and Hugs to all of you!❤️

Wendy Waltman - October 13, 2017 at 06:46 PM

WW

“ Wendy Waltman sent a virtual gift in memory of Duane Johnson



Wendy Waltman - October 13, 2017 at 06:44 PM



“ Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Duane Johnson.



October 13, 2017 at 06:39 PM

CA

“ Joyce and Family the Board of Directors and Staff of Community Development of Morrison County send our deepest sympathies to you. Duane was so supportive to our organization and to the entire County.

Carol Anderson - October 13, 2017 at 05:12 PM

JR

“ Joyce & Family,

We are so sorry to hear of Duane's passing. Your family, the Lions Organization as well as the community lost a wonderful person. God Bless. Gene & Janet Retka

Janet Retka - October 13, 2017 at 05:03 PM

SN

“ *Sandy Nelson lit a candle in memory of Duane Johnson*



Sandy Nelson - October 13, 2017 at 12:37 PM

SN

Joyce and family, I am so sorry to hear about Duane's passing. You are all in my thoughts and prayers.

Sandy Nelson - October 13, 2017 at 12:42 PM

KM

So sorry to hear about your loss. We are thinking about you . Luke and Kay (Staricka) Maher

Kay Staricka Maher - October 13, 2017 at 08:46 PM

MH

*Joyce & Family,
We are so sorry to hear about the loss of Duane and am sending thoughts and prayers to you and all his family, friends, our community of Swanville and those he was in contact with for the past many years in Morrison County. Duane was a wonderful public servant and it was evident that he so enjoyed helping others.*

Mary Hollenkamp - October 13, 2017 at 10:51 PM

JL

*Joyce and family,
Frank and I are so sorry for will greatly miss him. You are in our prayers. Judy Loken*

Judy Loken - October 14, 2017 at 08:39 AM

L(

So sorry to hear of Duane's passing. I was a classmate of Duane's at Swanville and although I don't get back to Swanville or Minnesota much - If I saw Duane, he was always so friendly and full of smiles.

Linda Flaherty (Krousey) - October 14, 2017 at 03:46 PM

BJ

Our condolences to Joyce and your family. Duane was a well respected in everything he did. He will be greatly missed. Lee and Bunny Johnston

Bunny Johnston - October 17, 2017 at 04:44 PM

DN

“ E



Dan & Sandy Noss - October 13, 2017 at 12:34 PM

MW

“ *Mike & Pearl Wilson lit a candle in memory of Duane Johnson*



Mike & Pearl Wilson - October 13, 2017 at 12:30 PM

JB

So sorry for your loss. Duane was such a kind and gentle person and we were proud to have known him. God bless his memory!

Jeff & Marlene Bertram - October 16, 2017 at 09:14 PM