



Clarence Amory Johnson II

April 16, 1937 - November 13, 2014

Clarence Amory Johnson, II (C.A.), 77, passed away peacefully on November 13, 2014 after a courageous battle with neuroendocrine cancer of the liver. His “never-met-a-stranger” personality and relentlessly positive outlook on life were contagious to all who had the pleasure of knowing him. He adored his family and many friends, and had a gift for making you feel like the most important person in the world when you were talking with him. A salesman at heart, he was successful in both the retail industry as well as commercial real estate development. He believed it was all about the customer, and he connected with each one. When it comes to memorable personalities, C.A. was in a class all by himself.

An Orlando native, he was born on April 16, 1937 to Clarence A. (Johnny) and Helen White Johnson at Orange Memorial Hospital. His paternal grandfather and great uncle piloted steamboats on the Kissimmee River. Growing up as a third generation Central Floridian, C.A. was an expert fisherman, both fresh and salt water and a local and continental hunter.

He graduated from Edgewater High School in 1955, with the first senior class to have attended Edgewater for all three years. He then graduated from the Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina, where he was a company commander. From there he joined the US Air Force, with intentions of making this his career. He was honorably discharged from service, however, upon the unexpected death of his father, allowing him to move home to Orlando to manage the family business, Johnson’s Men’s Shop, a well-known men’s

clothing store in downtown Orlando. He found his true calling in 1966, when he and friend Ken Higgins, joined brother-in-law Charlie Booth as partners in Southern States Land Company, a commercial real estate development company. C.A. later began his own company, C.A. Johnson Properties. He enjoyed serving on several banking boards and had a passion for sharing the Gospel with prison inmates through the Inmate Encounter organization. He also loved studying God's word with his dear friends in his Thursday morning men's bible study group.

In 1963, C.A. married Nancy Rood of Orlando, and together they had two children, Katie and Clay. He divorced in 1997 and later married Alice Fletcher Denson in 2001. C.A. and Alice enjoyed spending winters in Orlando and New Smyrna Beach, and summers in Maine.

C.A. is survived by his wife Alice, daughter Katie Herlong (Bill), son Clay Johnson; stepsons David Denson, Steve Denson (Susan), Todd Denson (Cathy), and grandchildren Grace and Anna Herlong, and Drew, Brandon, Zack and Trevor Denson. He is also survived by his sisters, Dot Booth and Janet Johnson (George), and several nieces and nephews.

A service to celebrate C.A.'s life will be held at 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, November 19, at First Presbyterian Church of Orlando, followed by a reception. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Inmate Encounter, PO Box 677338, Orlando, FL 32867-7338.

Tribute Wall

RG

“ I was sad to read of C A's passing, and apologize for taking so long to leave a Note. He was a very good person in my estimation, a lot of fun to visit with and a great guy to deal with.

Reed Grainger - January 12, 2015 at 03:33 PM

DD

“ Where will my good friend from Florida be during March Madness and all the great calls we made back/forth pulling for our teams? I was so fortunate to know this man and Alice during our several years in Maine. We did business together but more important we shared our faith for years. I look forward to the day I will see that warm, friendly smile again!

David Doolittle
Charlotte, NC

David Doolittle - November 24, 2014 at 03:50 PM

RV

“ I want to be like C.A. when I grow up!" These were the words I must have said a thousand times when I worked for C.A. as his secretary for ten years (1980-1990). I admired his business acumen, ethics, sincerity, beautiful family, and his sense of adventure and travel. In addition, his taste in automobiles just rocked! C.A. became my mentor, dear friend, and always, my "go-to" business advisor as I grew up in the professional world. I feel so fortunate to have had such a positive and kind role model in my life. I am honored to have been included in a chapter of his great life. Rest in peace, my friend, you are truly missed. Roberta "Robbie" Vose



Roberta Vose - November 21, 2014 at 08:05 AM

JM

“ Dearest One,
I am writing for our family including Marvin,
Tom, Gretchen, Patrick and myself. CA
always brought a smile to our faces. His
attention to my Dad was such an uplift and so
appreciated. We share with you in this loss within our extended
family. KNOW that we continue to be with you in our thoughts and
prayers. Love to each of you!
Jeanne Sweat McGuire



Jeanne Sweat McGuire - November 20, 2014 at 08:40 AM

JS

“ My heart goes out to those experiencing CA's loss of physical
presence here and now. His memory will remain in the hearts of his
loved ones forever I'm sure. My special love and support goes out
to Alice and the children now grown. Peace be with you, Amen. Joe
Slade

joe slade - November 19, 2014 at 07:57 PM



“ White Sympathy Baskets was purchased for the
family of Clarence Amory Johnson II.



November 18, 2014 at 11:02 AM

BH

“ *Bob & Charlotte Hattaway purchased the In His Honor Pedestal Arrangement for the family of Clarence Amory Johnson II.*



Bob & Charlotte Hattaway - November 18, 2014 at 08:31 AM



“ *Eternal Peace Pedestal Arrangement was purchased for the family of Clarence Amory Johnson II.*



November 17, 2014 at 11:10 PM

PH

“ *Alice and family,
Our thoughts and prayers are with you all during this difficult time. C.A. was a wonderful gentleman. I (Penny) will never forget him. We had a very special relationship. So very, very sad to hear of his passing. Alice - please consider yourself hugged by Joe and I. You and C.A. had such a loving relationship. We feel blessed to have known C.A. and hope to see you again. We know C.A. is up in heaven still enjoying those football games! Penny and Joe Hackett*

Penny Hackett - November 17, 2014 at 05:40 PM

TG

“ A fond farewell to a friend and former business associate. Although the years and distance have separated us, I have many memories of the times we spent together and count you as one of few persons having a major impact on my life. My heart goes out to your family as you will be missed by many.

Ted Greenslait
Georgetown, TX

Ted Greenslait - November 17, 2014 at 02:35 PM

LR

“ To know him was to love him and to feel loved in return. C.A. had a light about him! He had a unique and special way with people. I don't remember ever seeing and not being greeted by a huge smile and a hug. He was one of the warmest people I have ever met. Not only did he love me and make sure that I knew it- he loved my father Charlie Booth. He and my Dad had a very special bond. They looked after one another. When my Dad was ill and battling cancer himself- C.A. made time to visit with him and make him smile. He went out of his way to do that- and those visits meant so much to my Dad. C.A. also liked to play a joke or two on you... he was a prankster and always enjoyed leaving UF and Gator memorabilia under my pillow or on my bed when visiting my house and I was not there- (I am a Seminole). We enjoyed ribbing each other about that football rivalry and always had a lot to laugh about. I am honored that I had the joy and opportunity to know someone who cared so much about others, went out of his way to make the world better, and led by example. He will not be forgotten but he will be sorely missed. I am sending much love to all those that he loved so deeply.

Sincerely,
Laurene Booth Rovins

Laurene Booth Rovins - November 17, 2014 at 02:32 PM

DC

“ I had the pleasure and honor to know C.A. through banking. I took care of his banking needs from Colonial Bank, BB&T and finally Orange Bank of Florida. Talking to him was like talking to a family member. He always took the time to speak with me about life and give me sound advice on family, business and the Lord. You will truly be missed my dear friend!

David Chaves - November 17, 2014 at 02:27 PM



“ White Sympathy Baskets was purchased for the family of Clarence Amory Johnson II.



November 17, 2014 at 01:30 PM



“ Blue & White Sympathy Standing Spray was purchased for the family of Clarence Amory Johnson II.



November 17, 2014 at 11:32 AM

JB

“ A very dear friend. Good memories from the Bahamas to Maine, personal and business. He will be missed.

James D. Booth - November 17, 2014 at 10:22 AM

BH

“ *First. when I graduated from dental school in '79, I decided to move to Longwood where my in-laws lived in the Springs. CA was good friends with my father-in-law, Pete Ashworth, at the time(bet those two are having some good laughs in heaven about now!). CA and Ken Higgins were building Springs Plaza and I was their first tenant and CA was my landlord.....still remember meeting with him to discuss my lease. Second, CA would loan Charlie Brinkley and my family his beach house several times a years where our children learned to LOVE the beach, play on the big deck, Easter egg hunt every Easter.....on and on I could go. Third, my last rememberances of him were at Kendal Brinkley's wedding in Nashville this past April where we stayed at the same hotel and I chauffeured he and Alice around all weekend, what a really great time we had and that's how I'll always remember CA. They broke the mold after CA came into this world, like Charlie Brinkley said, I wish there were more men like him. Our thoughts and prayers are with you, Alice, Clay, Katie and the rest of the family. I too am a better person for knowing CA.*

Bob & Debbie Hawkins

Bob & Debbie Hawkins - November 17, 2014 at 09:33 AM

DS

“ *What a joy, privilege, and pure blessing to have known and worked with such an amazing person. CA was a diamond, a true gem of an individual. I started working for CA in 2010 and from the moment I met him, I knew I had met a very special person indeed. My respect for him was boundless as CA treated me like I was a member of his family. I have never known anyone like CA that truly cared about people and made it known to everyone he encountered through his actions. A compassionate man that would give you the shirt off his back. I count myself blessed beyond measure to of had the time I was given with him. CA has blessed my life in more ways than I could ever have imagined. A mentor, an example, a leader, and a true friend...I will cherish the moments and memories of CA for the rest of my life. May God bless you and comfort you CA, for I know He has made a special place in Heaven, just for you.*

David Sturgis - November 17, 2014 at 09:30 AM

JA

“ *Very DEAR Alice and Janet,*

My sincerest sympathy to you two and your families as you adjust to the loss of C.A. The tributes to him here help me to "know" him as it has been at least 65 years since I knew him at Princeton Elementary School and as Janet's and Dot's little brother! His photo bespeaks his zest for life and surely he has earned his Heavenly Reward. Please know that I am thinking of you with Caring and MUCH LOVE. . . .



Jane Crenshaw Avera

Jane Crenshaw Avera - November 17, 2014 at 01:50 AM

LP

“ *The passing of CA will leave a void in the lives of so many friends and family. He was truly a great man who loved being with his many friends and family, socializing, story telling and repeating a joke or two. The memories just posted about the lobster ritual in Maine brings a smile to my face recalling those visits with CA and Alice as the lobster was followed by a friendly card game or two. Alice, please know I am thinking of you and the family. Heaven just received its friendliest, most personable angel.*

Linda Peterson - November 16, 2014 at 04:37 PM

GM

“ *We dearly loved CA and have wonderful memories of Alice & CA here in New Smyrna Beach, in Maine, & Orlando. He was a special person, one of God's greatest creations . We will forever hold the precious times together in our hearts & we look forward to seeing him again in Heaven. Gary & Betty Miller*

Gary & Betty Miller - November 16, 2014 at 01:54 PM

RA

“ Reaching back through many years, my first "encounter" with CA was through his wife Alice. At the time, Alice and I were neighbors on Palmer Ave while she worked her business and I attended Rollins grad school. We walked regularly a few times a week, and I recall vividly her thrill in having reunited from high school with what has been "the love of her life!" I have been close to Alice, CA and her family over the years, and blessed as so many were to be invited and treated as royalty in their home on the ocean in Maine. No one can forget the "traditional" lobster drama when CA would don his tall white, classic Chef's hat as the big pot boiled ready for the feast to be cooked. The "guest" of honor would be given scissors as CA brought each lobster out of the cooler--having been brought home from the dock where they were caught that day. With a lot of laughter and adequate trepidation, I remember being the cutter of the rubber bands off the lobster's claws, and naturally, the ensuing excitement the lobster's freed claw always brought! I watched as many others were treated to this ritual, which also included a jovial lecture, and teaching moment using a visual aid of a genuine lobster trap. CA was relentlessly enthusiastic and despite his years on me, certainly left me crying "uncle" when it came to adventures he planned for me and others blessed to have his light shine in our direction. One of the best memories I have around the lobster ritual was when one of the guests who felt as I did somewhat concerned over the life of the lobster going live into the pot, actually hypnotized the lobster by sitting it upright on its tail and rubbing its spine until the darned thing just sat there quietly! It was another hoot and a holler kind of night where warm friendship, good food, and incredible hospitality from Alice and CA reigned true! I know my dearest friend Alice will miss her CA with all her heart, and I realize the kind of man CA is will leave a big warm spot in many of our hearts where our treasured memories and good feelings can be visited and revisited often. My love and condolences to out to you Alice and each and every family member and friend. Thank You dear CA, for being alive in my lifetime and sharing so much with so many!!!

P.S. I have LOADS of pictures, but I am in Washington State, Olympic Peninsula as I write, so I will add those when I return to Florida where my computer holds those treasures!

Rosemary Wolff Andrews - November 16, 2014 at 01:22 PM

GK

“ Dear Alice and Janet, CA always lived life to the fullest. He will be missed by many.

Love, Gay

Gay Kattel - November 16, 2014 at 12:57 PM

SD

“ Dear Alice, Dorothy , Janet and family my love to you and thoughts of comfort in this great loss of a wonderful friend. Our families have been close for most of our lives with . many memories . Shirley Malcom Devaughn (Joe) ALANTA,GA.

Shirley Malcom DeV Vaughn - November 16, 2014 at 08:34 AM

CB

“ CA was the greatest man I knew. My history with CA has made me a better man , father, and husband I cherished my 36 years with CA. God needs to produce more CA s Might never happen

charlie brinkley - November 16, 2014 at 08:25 AM

DB

“ Alice and Family, It was said best in his obituary. " CA was in a class of his own". What a wonderful person he was, God got a very special Angel and he will be missed by many here in Maine, especially my family. CA always treated my family like we were his own. Summers will never be the same in Maine. He would always joke with me that he would bring the warm weather with him when he came North. Will miss him terribly.
He will always have a special place in my heart. And Alice you also.
Love ,
Jack and Doris Bukowski
Steuben, Maine



Doris Bukowski - November 15, 2014 at 06:42 PM

KI

“ My sincerest condolences to the family of Clarence Johnson. No matter who we are, losing a loved one in death is painful. The pain, grief and feelings of helplessness is unbearable. May you find comfort in Jesus' words at Matthew 5:4, "Happy are those who mourn, since they will be comforted."

Kim - November 15, 2014 at 05:33 AM