



Gaylord N. Johnson

August 24, 1926 - July 28, 2017

Funeral services for Gaylord will be 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, August 1, 2017, at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Bruning, Nebraska with Pastor Stuart Sell officiating.

Visitation will begin Monday, 1 pm until 8 pm at the Farmer & Son Funeral Home in Geneva, Nebraska with family greeting friends from 5 until 7.

Graveside service with Military Honor's will be in the Trinity Lutheran Cemetery, Bruning, Nebraska following the service.

Memorials are directed to the Bruning Alumni Association, Trinity Lutheran Church or Bruning Volunteer Fire Department.

Gaylord Newell Johnson was born August 24, 1926 in Bruning, NE to Christof and Amelia (Eppler) Johnson. He passed away July 28, 2017 at Heritage Crossings in Geneva, NE after a sudden diagnosis of cancer.

He was one of eight children and spent most of his time working the farm. He loved horses and his Ford coupe. After graduating Bruning High School, he entered the Navy in late 1944, where he served in WWII on the USS Rodman and the war plane carrier Bunker Hill. After the war, he continued work on the farm and then carried mail for the US Postal Service. During this time, he was also the lead singer for the Mickey Kull Band and the Rhythmaires. He became a certified single-engine airplane pilot in 1948 and worked as a cropduster.

Gaylord married Dolores Marie Norder September 15, 1956 and he adopted her children as his own on April 25, 1957. He carried mail for 35 years and also drove school bus for Bruning-Davenport schools for 40 years. He enjoyed following BDS sports. A lifelong outdoorsman, he loved fishing, hunting, boating, and camping. It brought him great joy to teach his family members to fish. Gaylord was a Boy Scout leader, in the American Legion, and volunteered for the Bruning Fire Department. He lived in the Bruning area all of his life and was an active member of Trinity Lutheran Church, where his tenor voice filled the sanctuary. Whether at the cafe or with his family, Gaylord could always tell a

good story.

He lived life with a playful and genuine spirit. His heart was full of unconditional love and warmth that will be cherished.

Gaylord was preceded in death by his parents Christof "Tip" and Amelia Johnson. Also preceding him in death were sisters Leona (Mrs. Fieldon Hawks), Dorothy (Mrs. Paul Raines), Arlene Johnson, and Darlene (Mrs. Darrell Messman); brothers Vernon Johnson and Ronald Johnson; and son-in-law Gary Dittmer.

He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Dolores Johnson of Bruning, son Terry Johnson and wife Sue of Lincoln, daughter Kay Rathje and husband Rick of Roseland, daughter Debby Sylvester and Gary Tucker of Denver, son J. Kelly Johnson and wife Deb of Elkhorn, and sister Verienne (Mrs. Rev. Robert Hulse) of Emporia, KS, brother-in-law Paul Raines of Garden City, MO, sister-in-law Lola Johnson of Bruning; 14 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren: Julie Kuntze & husband Darin, children Ella & Ian; Jill Koegel & husband Eric, children Bradyn & Delaney; Ben Johnson & wife Crystal, son Jacob; Yancy Dittmer & wife Melissa, children Garrett & Addison; William Rathje & wife Megan, children Makenna, Macy, & Wyatt; Dillon Dittmer & wife Cassandra, children Teagan & Brooks; Weston Rathje & wife Rachel, children Isabel & Lana; Jared Rathje; Amy Peck & husband Brian, children Jarod, Mason, & Dillon; Tony Johnson & wife Susan; Brett Sander & wife Angie, children Alex & Avery; Brandi Petrik & husband Nick, children Addison & Auden; Shawn Johnson & wife Mindy; Calen Johnson & wife Jessica; son Leeland.

Tribute Wall

MS

“ He was my favorite bus driver, he was kind and funny. Always waited that extra minute when I was a running a little late! Prayers to the family, may he rest in peace. Michelle Wulf - Sinsel

Michelle Sinsel - August 30, 2017 at 01:15 PM

DB

“ Was my bus driver. Always said good morning and have a good day. Best bus driver ever. Prayers to the family. Darcy Turgeon - Brown



Darcy Brown - August 03, 2017 at 09:26 PM



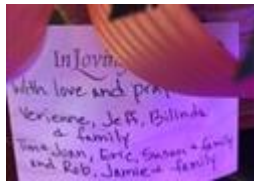
“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Amy Sylvester Peck - August 03, 2017 at 12:30 PM



“ 43 files added to the album Johnson Flowers



Farmer & Son Funeral Home - August 01, 2017 at 01:15 PM

DZ

“ *Debby, Kelly, Kay, & Terry & your families. Your dad always had a smile & added warmth to any room. Thinking about you all as you share fond memories of your dad. With prayers & hugs.*
Deb (Smith) Zimmer



Deb Zimmer - July 31, 2017 at 09:01 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Gaylord N. Johnson.*



July 31, 2017 at 07:09 PM

PL

“ *Gaylord was a bus driver when I did quite a bit of substitute teaching in Bruning. If he saw me at the school he would always ask me, "Who are you today?" He always asked me that, long after I was a substitute teacher and I think asked me that the last time I saw him at church in Bruning.*

Patt Lentfer - July 31, 2017 at 03:36 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Gaylord N. Johnson.*



July 31, 2017 at 10:13 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Gaylord N. Johnson.*



July 31, 2017 at 10:08 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Gaylord N. Johnson.*



July 30, 2017 at 08:32 AM



“ *Melinda Johnson lit a candle in memory of Gaylord N. Johnson*



Melinda Johnson - July 29, 2017 at 06:04 PM

HM

“ *Gaylord and Dolores came out to the Snack Shack nearly every weekend for burgers and ice cream while we were there. He was always "full of it" and had so many stories to tell. I took over his Ohioa bus route when he retired. Glad we got to see him just 2 weeks ago. Prayers for his family. Butch & Helen Myers*

Helen Myers - July 29, 2017 at 12:59 PM



Thanks, Helen. My boys and I have wonderful memories of coming to the Alexandria Snack Shack. I know Grandpa and Grandma valued their friendship with you as well as the loaded nachos and ice cream!

Amy Sylvester Peck - August 03, 2017 at 11:59 AM

..

“ *.. purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Gaylord N. Johnson.*



.. - July 29, 2017 at 10:44 AM

CP

“ *I am so sorry for your loss! I have very fond memories of Gaylord. He was my bus driver for 7 years of my daily route plus whatever ball game or special event. He rarely ever missed a day!*

Cheryl Price - July 29, 2017 at 10:15 AM

KH

R.I.P. my friend, I'll miss you a lot!

Karin Hinz - July 30, 2017 at 04:17 PM

CP

“ *Cheryl Price lit a candle in memory of Gaylord N. Johnson*



Cheryl Price - July 29, 2017 at 10:10 AM



“ *Clark Schulte lit a candle in memory of Gaylord N. Johnson*



Clark Schulte - July 28, 2017 at 11:24 PM

JW

Kelly and Deb you have my deepest sympathy in the loss of your dad losing one's parents is very hard just remember all the good times. You are in my thoughts and prayers

Jeannie Werner - July 29, 2017 at 05:06 PM

JD

Many nice memories of this Bruning family. ❤️ Great kids!

JeNeane K Schelbitzki Dodson - July 29, 2017 at 06:33 PM