



# Donald Robert Johnson Sr.

NOV 27, 1944 - AUG 25, 2021



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## **Donald Robert Johnson Sr.**

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**T**he family of Donald R. Johnson, Sr, announces with great sorrow his passing on August 25, 2021. Don was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1944 and was lucky enough to see most every part of this world, which he shared with his wife of 56 years (Frances E. (O'Bannon) Johnson).

Few things made Don more proud than his country, his family, and his Masonic affiliation. Don was a member of the United States Army and proudly served during the Vietnam War. Following in his footsteps, his sons Donald Johnson, Jr. and Kevin D. Johnson, Sr. both also served in the United States Army, and served overseas during Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm.

Nothing brought more joy and love to Don's life than time and interaction with his family, both immediate and extended. The Donald Johnson, Sr. family reaches across many cities and many states with nothing but love and joy in the hearts of everyone who has ever come into contact with "YaYa". The eldest grandchild, Kevin, Jr., started the "YaYa" tradition that stuck all the way through from Kevin, Jr. to Amanda (Mandi), Lindsay Blair, Lindsay Lee, Ariel, Anthony, Katie, Brian, and Ben. The grandchildren all knew the love that a grandfather has. But not many have the chance to meet, interact, and get to know their great grandchildren - Landyn, Kaaliyah, Liam, Sophia, Marina, Absher, Hayes, Sasha, Tiegen, and Remi.

Don was a member of the Tropical Masonic Lodge #56 of Fort. Myers, and he enjoyed his time there, interacting with Brothers throughout Southwest Florida and Virginia Masonic fraternities. The Brothers of the 29th Masonic District of Virginia and Specifically the DuPont #289 Masonic Lodge of Hopewell, Virginia will miss Brother Don as he was a regular visitor in Virginia.

A Graveside Service for Donald will take place at 10:00 AM on Friday, September 3, 2021 inside the Field of Honor at Memorial Gardens Cemetery. Masonic honors for Donald will be provided by his Brothers from Tropical Masonic Lodge No. 56. Fellow veterans from the Fort Myers American Legion Post No. 38 will be present to offer a bugle rendition of "Taps" along with a 21-gun Rifle Salute. Military Honors provided by the United States Army will follow. After



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presentation of the United States Flag to Donald's widow Fran, Don will be laid to rest with burial of his urn at the adjacent Cross Memorial Section.

Frances Johnson, Donald R. Johnson Jr. & Sally Gopfert Willis, and Kevin & Denise Johnson sincerely appreciate all of the kind wishes and prayers they have received as they bid their loved one farewell. Please feel free to leave condolences here on the Memorial Gardens Website. No donations of any kind will be received but are appreciated and respected.

Thank you, and we love you all,

The Johnson Family as a whole



## Events

**Donald Robert Johnson Sr.**

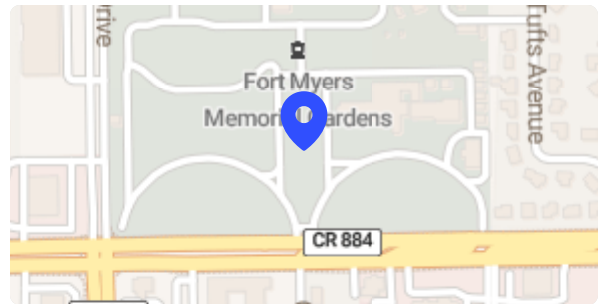
NOV 27, 1944 - AUG 25, 2021

### Masonic Memorial Ritual

 **Friday**, September 3, 2021


 10:00 AM ET


 **Fort Myers Memorial Gardens Cemetery**  
1589 Colonial Blvd, Fort Myers FL 33907

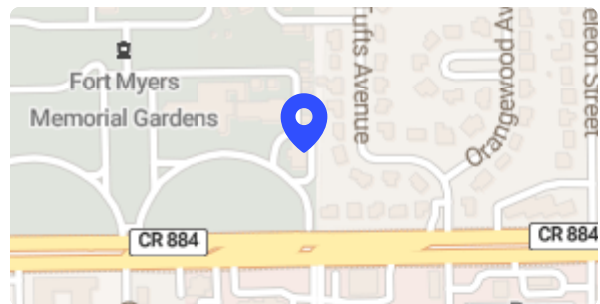


### Military Honors


 **Friday**, September 3, 2021

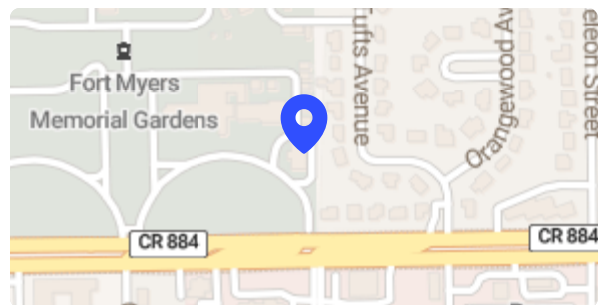
 10:15 AM ET

 **Fort Myers Memorial Gardens Cemetery**  
1589 Colonial Boulevard, Fort Myers FL 33907



### Cemetery Details

 **Fort Myers Memorial Gardens Cemetery**  
1589 Colonial Boulevard, Fort Myers FL 33907





## Tribute Wall

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SH

**Stephen Hewitt** sent a virtual gift in honor of Donald.

Rest in Peace!!

May 27 at 2:45 PM



SH

**Stephen Hewitt** lit a candle in honor of Donald.

May 27 at 2:44 PM



SH

**Stephen Hewitt** posted:

I only met you right after I was born 1963 in France you left and I never got to know you. I moved to America at 1 year old. I contacted you about 5 years ago by letter and you called me, we talked for a while you told me that you needed time to think and digest the situation. You told me to call you if I had questions regarding health in the future. You told me that you had recently found a brother. Then I never heard from you again! I am so sorry that i never got to have you in my life! Rest in Peace!!  
Stephen Donald Hewitt

May 27 at 2:28 PM

CT

**Cesar Tapia** posted:

To the entire family of Don, I offer my sincerest condolences. My mom and their church have all of you in their prayers. I love you all.

September 2 at 1:33 AM

JM

**Judy Maier** posted:

I am sorry for your loss!

September 1 at 6:09 AM

CT

**Cesar Tapia** lit a candle in honor of Donald.

He was a great man who never forgot to let you know he loved you. The way he would play with our kids would just melt your heart ❤️. I will miss you Don.

September 1 at 4:52 AM





## Tribute Wall

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JH

**Jane Dixon-Hoffman** lit a candle in honor of Donald.

Sincerest Condolences to the entire Johnson family. Donnie-boy, Kevin, and Fran....my heart goes out to all of you. Jane (Dixon) - Hoffman & Ron Hoffman

August 31 at 8:31 PM



CW

**Carole Wynn** lit a candle in honor of Donald.

I met Don Johnson last Thanksgiving at my sister Sally and Dons place. He has the best personality make everyone laugh and comfortable for a 1st meeting. It was a hard time for us as our dad passed away 2020 from covid, I will remember his kindness and him making sure we had a good Thanksgiving .Thinking of the family sending my loveCarole Wynn

August 31 at 5:57 PM



SW

**Stephen Willoughby** lit a candle in honor of Donald.

Dear Denise and Kevin,On behalf of everyone at The Richmond, VA, Department of Emergency Communications, we would like to extend our condolences at the passing of your beloved father, Mr. Donald Robert Johnson.In this time of great sorrow, please know that you and the Johnson Family are in our thoughts and our prayers. We also would like to share our appreciation and gratitude for Mr. Johnson's sacrifice and service to our Country.On behalf of all at the 9-1-1 Emergency Communications Center, we extend our condolences, may God give you the strength to overcome during this difficult time.Sincerely yours,Richmond, VA, Emergency Communications Family

August 31 at 10:50 AM



JK

**James And Linda Keane** posted:

There is no way to describe the deep sadness we feel with the loss of a dear brother and brother in law. The greatest blessing Jim ever received was to find Don, his brother! Don was everything and more! Accepting, loving, understanding. A man with great integrity and deep love for his family.Our deepest condolences to Fran, Donny, Kevin and Family. We love you all.Jim and Linda Keane

August 30 at 10:56 AM



## Tribute Wall

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**Anonymous** sent a sympathy card to the Johnson family.

August 30 at 5:37 AM



**Bettie La Motte** posted:

He was a great guy and I considered him a real "cousin". We always had such great times when he and Frances would come "camping" at our Harpers Ferry home. I am so proud that he had become a Mason and shared that distinction with my late husband. They, as well as Kevin, are were "brothers" by Masonic standards. He will be sorely missed.

August 28 at 10:06 AM



**Carol S.** sent a sympathy card to the Johnson family.

August 28 at 5:43 AM



**Virginia Johnson** posted:

♥ love and condolences to all. I met Don when he was 7 and I married his uncle. Being then his Aunt Virginia I watched through the years as he grew ever sweeter, smarter, kinder. He will be deeply missed by so many he has touched. I am truly sorry for your loss.

August 27 at 4:57 PM



**Adrienne Gaines** posted:

Dear Sir;I only met you one time but I have heard so many beautiful stories of you. The impact that you had on those who love you is unmeasureable. I truly can tell what kind of man you were based on your wonderful son Kevin Johnson. Thank you Sir for blessing the earth with your intellect, your caring spirit and you son Kevin. He has helped so many of us through his wisdom, which I am sure cultivated and was passed through you. Rest in peace Sir. I know you will be watching over your loved ones from heaven, and we will make sure Kevin is OK on earth. Heaven has gained a true angel...

August 27 at 1:52 PM



## Tribute Wall

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ES

**Eileen Sutton** lit a candle in honor of Donald.

August 27 at 1:18 PM



ES

**Elizabeth Sutton** lit a candle in honor of Donald.

I have the pleasure of working with Donald Jr., and our hearts and prayers are with him and his family. My prayer is that you find peace and gratitude for your dad's life and example. - Elizabeth Sutton

August 27 at 12:30 PM



DP

**Donnie Parr** posted:

The Brethren of Dupont Lodge #289, in Hopewell, VA express their most heartfelt sympathy and condolences to the Johnson Family. May Brother Johnson rest in peace. Donnie Parr  
Worshipful Master, Dupont Lodge #289AF&AM

August 27 at 9:36 AM

KJ

**Kevin Johnson** August 27 at 10:53 AM

Thank you so much worshipful

SM

**Stephen Mathers** posted:

Years of fond memories of Potter Street-the Johnsons-our Roots-home base-the good old days...Francis where were the light bulbs when the honeymoon was over? Love and many prayers,  
Steve Mathers

August 27 at 4:38 AM



## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Donald by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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