



Robert Johnson

July 30, 1945 - March 27, 2012

Robert James Johnson, age 66, of Dayton, TN died Tuesday, March 27, 2012 at home with his wife and daughter by his side. He was born July 30, 1945 in Bottineau, ND to the late James H. and Thelma (Christianson) Johnson.

He served his country in the U.S. Navy from 1966 – 1970.

He lived in Kitsap County, WA where he was a rigger at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard. He retired in 2001. He and his wife, Diane, enjoyed traveling and living in their motor home full time for eight years. They settled in Dayton, TN in 2009.

He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Diane (Bar) Johnson of Dayton, his daughter Karen E. (Larry) Perkins of Dayton, his sister Joanne Johnson of Port Orchard, WA, grandchildren Grace Perkins of Lynchburg, VA and Michelle Perkins, James Perkins and Justin Perkins of Dayton.

Special thanks are extended to the doctors and staff at Chattanooga Oncology & Hematology Assoc., Hospice of East Tennessee and Dr. Daniel Black.

Burial was Thursday, March 29, 2012 at Chattanooga National Cemetery.

Please share your memories of Bob on his on-line guest register at www.vanderwallfh.com.

The family is being served by the Vanderwall Funeral Home in Dayton, TN.

Tribute Wall



“ hello tina, just wanted to say i have been ofwloing you on bgt and youtube, how wonderful you are with Chandi. i have an old scruffy dog i found in a refuge in australia 14 years ago, he is now approx 15 and this is the love of my life. not as lovely as yours as he is very afraid of people, but for me wonderful. i am terrified of losing him but he is getting older anyway just wanted to say hi and will keep ofwloing you and chandi, such a gorgeous dog!Saskia
x###imported-begin##Thwmas###imported-end##

April 09, 2012 at 03:39 AM



“ Karen~ I don't know if you remember me, I am Jenny Tallman, and we were close friends in elementary school. I remember both of your parents treating me just like I belonged with you all as a family. I lost my dad in 2005, and I totally understand what you are going through right now, and I feel for you and all of your family. Please know that as time passes, the pain will ease, and your memories of your dad will become even more important than ever. There is a saying that we put on my dad's headstone that I absolutely adore, and maybe it will help bring you the same happy thoughts it has given me over the past few years. "When someone you love becomes a memory, that memory becomes a treasure." My thoughts are with you and your family during this difficult time.###imported-begin##Jenny Farley###imported-end##

April 03, 2012 at 01:41 PM



“ *Diane and Karen,
I am so sorry to get the news of your loss. It is so hard to lose a husband or a father. Bob was such a great guy. I enjoyed talking to him at work and enjoyed getting to know you as a family when Jenny and Karen spent time together. Take care of yourselves.##imported-begin##Mary Jane Tallman##imported-end##*

April 02, 2012 at 11:08 PM



“ *Bob was my apprentice trade instructor at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard from 1982-86. I'm glad he was able to enjoy a few years of well earned retirement. May God bless and keep the family and loved ones.##imported-begin##Kevin Kuhns##imported-end##*

March 31, 2012 at 10:30 PM



“ For the rest of my life, my memories of the adventures of Bob and Diane, Dar and Carolyn, and Mary shall never be forgotten. Around 1983, 29 years ago, Dar and I first laid eyes on Bob at a Commodore Users Group, where he was making a presentation on how to pirate software. It was easy to love Bob.

He was passionate about what he did; from stamp collecting, gardening, moving dirt, motor homing, enjoying good food (eyes lite up and Um Um Um Um), travel (Copious Cousins), computers, photography, home entertainment. His approach to lifelong learning was with curiosity, gusto, and he was a gifted teacher. He always listened, and always was supportive.

He had a great sense of humor. I could always make him laugh .. While he and Diane stayed with us in Yuma, he was getting a few quarters for Social Security. Most every night, at happy hour he would regale us with the days' funny experiences

Whether running around at the Skykomish campground in his underwear, rigging 60 by 80 foot tents, cleansing his palate with beer when Dar offered him fine wine, shooting guns, or building Polish Wood Stoves with 18 foot chimney fires in the middle of the forest, he just enjoyed life.

From the first he knew he was sick and through it all, he fought the good fight. Bob took care of business, and did everything he could to leave a comfortable home, enjoy the time he had left, and prepare for his family's future ... And his. In all the Skypes, for the most part he did well, and made the best of what time he had left. He was still leading by example and I hope I will conduct my affairs as well as he, when it is my time

I will cherish the memories of our experiences together for the rest of my life, and I will miss my very dear friend ... At Navy hail and farewells, and at retirement ceremonies, they have a saying. Bob was Navy, both military and civilian, so Bob "Fair Winds and

Following Seas" ... And farewell my friend.

.##imported-begin##Tom and Mary Kennedy##imported-end##

March 31, 2012 at 04:30 PM



*“ Diane & Karen,
We were saddened to hear of Bob's passing. I still think of him when I work in the greenhouse. You are in our thoughts & prayers.##imported-begin##Dave & JoAnn White##imported-end##*

March 31, 2012 at 01:44 PM



“ I love my grandpa very much. I miss him so very much, and I know that he's in a better place. If we'd ask him how it is, you know what he'd say? "Not Bad"##imported-begin##Michelle Perkins##imported-end##

March 30, 2012 at 08:52 PM



*“ So sad to hear about your great loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.
Draw strength from the Lord.
LIPEO Phyllis##imported-begin##Del & Phyllis Palmer##imported-end##*

March 30, 2012 at 05:42 PM



“ I am so sorry to hear of Bobs passing. Bob was a terric mentor to me when I worked with him in the early years developing rigger training, many years ago. His passion for his work and for his family was clearly on display every day for all to see, and when I remember Bob, that passion still inspires me today. God bless Bob's soul and also bring comfort to all his many family and friends. v/r DJ###imported-begin###Dean Jennings###imported-end##

March 30, 2012 at 04:09 PM



“ Diane and family: So sorry to learn of your loss. I think the last time I saw you, you two had just sold your home here in Port Orchard and were ready to set out on adventures in your motorhome. Sounds like you did just that! You are in our thoughts. Please, if you ever make it back to PT O, stop in---we're in the same old house. Take care. Maxine & Spencer###imported-begin###Maxine and Spencer Tarver###imported-end##

March 30, 2012 at 02:26 PM



“ Diane, so sorry to hear of Bob's passing! Thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this time. My Hubby really enjoyed working with Bob in 740 and we miss you here! Take Care!
your Former S/17 co-worker

Marcie.###imported-begin###Marcie & Brad Luzik###imported-end##

March 30, 2012 at 01:49 PM



“ Dianne and family; You guys have been sorely missed out here in Port Orchard. I cannot tell you how seeing Bob's obituary, sent to me from Jim Hope, makes me feel. Bob was my mentor...we were in the same class at the shipyard and suffered the same retributions all beginners in our trade did...but Bob got me through the 'book learning' side of the apprenticeship maybe out of pity for me but more from the goodness of his heart. He was that kind of a man almost 40 years ago.

I'm so sorry and I truly share your grief. He was a great man and a great person and hell, i've missed you guys for the last 25 or so years since our career paths took different turns. God Bless you all...we're all better for having Bob in our life!###imported-begin##Bob Gray##imported-end##

March 30, 2012 at 01:44 PM



“ Worked many years with Bob in the offices of the shipyard for shop 72. He was a fair and good mentor and friend. I am glad he got out and took off in his RV. He talked a lot about that during the last couple years in the yard.###imported-begin##John Breslin##imported-end##

March 30, 2012 at 01:37 PM



“ Diane and Karen, my thoughts and prayers are with you guys. I am so sorry that Bob is gone. He was a wonderful man full of love and laughter and I will miss him greatly. It was a pleasure knowing him as a person and uncle. Love to you all!###imported-begin##Angie Leddige##imported-end##

March 30, 2012 at 12:50 PM



“ I worked with Bob at the shipyard for several years. He gave me my first opportunity to be a supervisor there. I still remember one of his favorite sayings, change in the Government is like mating elephants, lots of stomping and bellowing and two years later you see results. He was a good man.##imported-begin##Robert Craig##imported-end##

March 30, 2012 at 11:50 AM



“ When I met Bob, he was at his desk “using” his computer and that was one of the many interests we shared for the next thirty years. We also shared adventures in moving dirt with our tractors, and landscaping which was another of his (many) talents. We built four computer “corner” desks which I believe to be his design. We went camping many times on the Skokomish River in our first motorhomes and we’ll remember those trips with great joy. On one of those trips we had two large tarps and when the rainclouds started leaking, Bob “the rigger” used ropes, pulleys, and cables creating a full “blue sky” canopy over all three motorhomes. We are all going to miss Bob greatly as he was a special friend to us all. Dar##imported-begin##Dar Meisner##imported-end##

March 29, 2012 at 08:20 PM



“ A heart felt message to Bob's Family. I had the pleasure to work for Bob in 1996, when I was going through cancer treatment. He was a wonderful and considerate man who went out of his way to make me comfortable during that time. His memory will be with me the rest of my life. God bless you all. Oren Anderson##imported-begin##Oren Anderson##imported-end##

March 29, 2012 at 08:07 PM



“ Diane & family, We were sorry to hear of Bob's passing, but are thankful his battle is over. We are continuing to pray for all of you in the days ahead. May God richly bless you with His peace & God Bless the memory of Bob.

With Love

Terry, Jen, Austin, Chloe & Madison##imported-begin##Terry & Jen Schell##imported-end##

March 29, 2012 at 05:20 PM



“ Diane Karen and Larry, we are very sorry to hear about the passing of Bob but relieved to know his suffering is over. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you. We know Bob will be missed by all.##imported-begin##David and Candy Kalil##imported-end##

March 29, 2012 at 10:33 AM



“ Dear Diane & family, So sorry to hear of your loss. Our thoughts and prayers will be with you. I enjoyed the time you stopped at our house and visited. . . I think we got married about the same time as you guys, and I was always impressed with your "wandering" spirit as you traveled around the United States in your motor home! Love you, Gwen & Joe##imported-begin##Joe & Gwen Stanton##imported-end##

March 29, 2012 at 10:03 AM



“ Diane & family we are so sorry to hear of your loss of Bob here on earth, but we know that he will live on in your hearts forever! We so enjoyed your visit when you both were "world travelers" in you RV. Draw your strength from our awesome God! Know that you are in our thoughts & prayers.##imported-begin##Evan & Billie Skurdal##imported-end##

March 29, 2012 at 10:00 AM



“ Diane and family,
We are saddened by the loss of your husband and father. Our prayers for comfort and peace in the next few weeks, months, and years as you remember the good memories and times you shared with Bob. May he rest in peace.##imported-begin##Julie and Kevin Eide##imported-end##

March 28, 2012 at 09:33 PM



“ Bob was a friend you could always count on to be helping his friends no matter what the task. I personally loved Bob for his appreciation of my cooking and could always count on an honest opinion but most of all enjoyed hearing his mmmm mmmmm good while eating what I served. I could always count on Bob to give me advice and guidance on gardening as well. Camping with Bob was always an adventure and fun too. It is true "Death leaves a heartache no one can heal, love leaves a memory no one can steal." I will always miss Bob and he will never be forgotten.

My deepest sympathy to Diane, Karen and family for this tremendous loss of a loved one.

Carolyn##imported-begin##Carolyn Meisner##imported-end##

March 28, 2012 at 09:28 PM



“ Our love and thoughts are with you all. Bob was a special man. I remember when we were in Alabama at the trailer that year for Thanksgiving when Larry started getting flushed and I'll. He was so concerned and caring. Such a good heart. We will miss him, too. Rest in peace, friend.##imported-begin##Michelle and Larry Perkins##imported-end##

March 28, 2012 at 08:07 PM



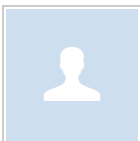
“ Diane and Karen and family---we are so sorry to hear of Bobs death. We know he fought a hard battle. We are praying for Gods peace to surround you all. We really enjoyed Bob over the years---he was a great visitor--on many subjects...Blessing to you...Boone and Susan##imported-begin##Susan Herring##imported-end##

March 28, 2012 at 07:38 PM



“ What a wonderful caring man Bob was. What a terrible loss. His family is in my prayers.##imported-begin##Norma Summer##imported-end##

March 28, 2012 at 06:18 PM



“ Diane and Karen,

My thoughts are with you during this difficult time. I am so sorry for your loss.

Melissa##imported-begin##Melissa Anderson##imported-end##

March 28, 2012 at 02:28 PM



“ So sorry to hear of your Bob's passing. Just looked at the pictures from your visit with us in your motor home when I was working on albums the other day. We so enjoyed that time with you both! Will be praying for your comfort as you mourn.##imported-begin##Julie Skurdal##imported-end##

March 28, 2012 at 01:29 PM