



Bessie Ann Johnson

January 27, 1952 - December 8, 2025

Bessie Ann Johnson Obituary

Bessie Ann Johnson, of Sterling Heights, Michigan, passed away on December 8, 2025 at the age of 73. Bessie is the devoted wife of 45 years of the late Joseph G. Johnson; the loving mother of Joseph J. (Mariah Russell) Johnson and Kathleen (Brian Musser) Hart; the doting grandmother of Jake, Megan, Judith, and Charles; and the dear sister of the late Annette Datko (Norman), the late Cleo Howell (Richard), and Mary Hypnarowicz (John). She is the beloved daughter of the late James and Ann (nee Zajkowski) Karas.

Bessie will be remembered for her genuineness and feistiness. Unafraid to overshare and never shy to let anyone know exactly what she was thinking, she could come across as difficult at times, but she was kind, funny, and generous, especially with family and friends who needed help. From taking in her kids' friends who needed a safe haven to advocating for her fellow residents in assisted living, she endeared herself to everyone around her. Most of all, she dedicated herself to caring for her husband, Joe. Through sheer will, she navigated his numerous medical issues, even as her own needs grew. But no one was going to tell her what to do.

She loved spending time with family, especially her grandkids. She was thoughtful and took pride in being the grandma who always bought the

grandkids' favorite gifts. She enjoyed playing slots at the casino, going up north to fish, and, more recently, playing bingo and sponge painting. On special occasions, she made everyone's favorite golumpki (stuffed cabbage).

Family and friends are invited to gather for a memorial visitation on Friday, December 12, 2025 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:45 p.m., with a celebration of life service beginning at 4:30 p.m. The service will be led by Pastor Jeff Swanson of Gospel Life Church and will be held at the Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, 8459 Hall Road (3 blocks east of Van Dyke), Utica.

Memorials are appreciated to the American Kidney Fund, 11921 Rockville Pike, Suite 300, Rockville, MD 20852 or at <https://www.kidneyfund.org>

Cemetery Details

Cremation

Previous Events

Memorial Gathering

DEC 12. 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Utica
8459 Hall Road
Utica, MI 48317

Celebration of Life Service

DEC 12. 4:30 PM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Utica
8459 Hall Road
Utica, MI 48317

Tribute Wall



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Bessie Ann Johnson.



December 11, 2025 at 03:41 PM



“ Brad and Andrea planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Bessie Ann Johnson.

Brad and Andrea - December 11, 2025 at 03:41 PM



“ Carolyn and Sherry purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Bessie Ann Johnson.



Carolyn and Sherry - December 10, 2025 at 12:30 PM



“ Carolyn and Sherry planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Bessie Ann Johnson.

Carolyn and Sherry - December 10, 2025 at 12:30 PM