



## Richard H. Johnson

July 27, 1948 - May 11, 2018

Richard was born on July 27, 1948 in Royal Oak to the late Henry and Sylvia Johnson. He was the beloved husband of Amanda, whom he was married to for 35 happy years. Rick was the loving father of Scott, Julie (Gerry) and Stephani, as well as the proud grandfather of four grandchildren. He was the only brother to Barb (Bill) Brown, Joyce (Butch) Butcher and Kathy (George) Baalerud as well as the cousin, nephew, and uncle to a large extended family.

Rick was the owner of Billings Lawn Equipment, a store that has been in the Johnson family since the 1950's and continues to be run by his son. He made countless contributions to the city he loved so much Royal Oak. Rick was the past president of the Royal Oak Chamber of Commerce, a past board member of the Royal Oak Boys and Girls Club, past president of the Downtown Royal Oak Association just to name a few. He was instrumental in the annual Grand National car race benefiting Give A Christmas, was a founding sponsor of the Royal Oak Sandlot baseball team, as well as a longtime hockey and bowling team sponsor. Rick has been awarded many esteemed honors such as Royal Oak Business Person of the Year, Volunteer of the Year, the Beautification Award, as well as many professional and business honors. Rick will be remembered mostly for his huge heart and giving spirit. He was involved in many local charities and causes and was always happy to lend a helping hand or to open his wallet for those in need.

Visitation will be held Wednesday, May 16th, 2018 from 2:00 pm-8:00 pm with funeral services to be held Thursday, May 17th, 2018 at 11:00 am at the Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Home located at 705 West 11 Mile Road in Royal Oak. Burial will take place at Oakview Cemetery following the service. Memorial contributions are appreciated to the Royal Oak Animal Shelter or to the Pancreatic Cancer organization PanCan.org

Please join us in honoring Rick and his love of hot rods by driving your classic car in the funeral procession on Thursday!

# Cemetery Details

## Oakview Cemetery

1032 N. Main Street  
(south of 12 Mile Road)  
Royal Oak, MI 48067

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**MAY 16.** 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Royal Oak  
705 W. Eleven Mile Road  
Royal Oak, MI 48067  
(248) 541-7000  
royal@sullivanfh.com  
<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/>

## Funeral Service

**MAY 17.** 11:00 AM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Royal Oak  
705 W. Eleven Mile Road  
Royal Oak, MI 48067  
(248) 541-7000  
royal@sullivanfh.com  
<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/>

## Burial

MAY 17. 12:00 PM (ET)

Oakview Cemetery  
1032 N. Main Street  
Royal Oak, MI 48067

# Tribute Wall

MF

“ One of the most supportive and generous people I have ever met. As Former sales director at the Daily Tribune i personally saw Rick put the first check in “ the basket” whether it be to support the community or someone in need...I will always remember his love for Jimmy Buffett concerts and was fortunate to attend a few with him...” Fins up” my friend and rest now in peace...

matt fasang - November 02, 2021 at 10:32 PM

LA

“ Rick was a positive force on earth. He was THE BEST neighbor for over 26 years; Rick was fun and comfortable to be around. In all honesty he had an incredible spirit of friendliness, happiness, generousness, helpfulness, wit, and good-humor. All these qualities seemed to come from his heart and he will truly be missed. Roy and I shared many laughs with Rick. ~ Fondly, Leah and Roy Anania



Leah Anania - May 17, 2018 at 07:37 AM

DW

“ The Royal Oak Community has lost a fine businessman and leader.i personally had the pleasure of knowing Rick since our high school days.i had the opportunity enjoy the business relationship we established for many years.Rick, was definitely a pillar of the community.He leaves his family friends and associates a fine legacy. He will be sadly missed.  
DWKrane

DWKrane - May 16, 2018 at 04:15 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Richard H. Johnson.*



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May 16, 2018 at 01:19 PM



“ *Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Richard H. Johnson.*



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May 16, 2018 at 10:52 AM



“ *Although I never met Richard, I am good friends with his son Scott. Reading his obituary, you can see how much he has given to the community he loved so much. That is the legacy of this man and it continues with Scott.*

*May God bless him and his family.  
Jon Barber*

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**jon** - May 16, 2018 at 09:31 AM



“ *Tom, Marybeth Dohring, Phil Berry, and purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Richard H. Johnson.*



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**Tom, Marybeth Dohring, Phil Berry, and** - May 15, 2018 at 08:58 PM



“ *Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Richard H. Johnson.*



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May 15, 2018 at 05:47 PM



“ *They say that the measurement of fatherhood is in the reflection of your offspring.  
Rest in peace Rick, JOB WELL DONE!*

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**RUSS SMITH** - May 15, 2018 at 03:52 PM



“ *Karen, Paul and your friends at Kawasaki purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of Richard H. Johnson.*



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**Karen, Paul and your friends at Kawasaki** - May 15, 2018 at 03:11 PM



“ *Summer's Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Richard H. Johnson.*



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May 15, 2018 at 01:09 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Richard H. Johnson.*



May 15, 2018 at 12:11 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Richard H. Johnson.*



May 15, 2018 at 11:25 AM



“ *Len Nadolski and Larry Burr purchased the Secret Garden Basket for the family of Richard H. Johnson.*



**Len Nadolski and Larry Burr** - May 15, 2018 at 09:04 AM



“ *Glorious Grace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Richard H. Johnson.*



May 15, 2018 at 08:50 AM

SB

“ How fortunate for the community to have such a benevolent and wise business leader whose life enriched the quality of life for so many! Every Dream Cruise and when I pass Woodward & 13 Mile, I recall how Rick and Scott devoted so much energy and time to set up for the Grand Nationals quarter scale car races to benefit charities. The energy and time Rick magnanimously contributed to the Royal Oak Chamber of Commerce left a remarkable legacy that continues to positively benefit the community. My heartfelt condolences to Mandy and family and gratitude to you for generously sharing such a good human being and charitable role model with us.

Sheila Brice

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Sheila Brice - May 15, 2018 at 07:16 AM



“ Heart's Companion Bouquet was purchased for the family of Richard H. Johnson.



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May 14, 2018 at 09:20 PM

WS

“ Rick was the picture of generosity when I worked for him at Billings (Feed Store era) in 2001-2002. What a great and hilarious boss. I'll remember how he'd expect and celebrate the best efforts of all around him. For example, his store-pet, Watson, was perhaps 200 years old when Rick hired me, and the dusty cat could barely move. Yet Rick would revel in the fact that Watson was the best mouser in the county! Great guy; he'll be remembered fondly!

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Wesley R Smith - May 14, 2018 at 08:49 PM

DP

“ *Dick and Pam purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Richard H. Johnson.*



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**Dick and Pam** - May 14, 2018 at 06:14 PM

DS

“ *Dave & Pam Storrs purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Richard H. Johnson.*



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**Dave & Pam Storrs** - May 14, 2018 at 11:40 AM

AS

“ *All our Love, George and Judy Storrs purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Richard H. Johnson.*



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**All our Love, George and Judy Storrs** - May 13, 2018 at 07:37 PM

GS

“ We were blessed to have Rick as such a good friend for the past 40 years. We will miss all the fun times we had -- the cruises, the casino runs, and dinners we had together on Sundays. He was one of the most kindest, caring, and generous persons who put others before himself. Our sorrow in losing you now can only be overshadowed by knowing that someday we will be together again. We miss you so much! Rest in peace, brother. Our very deepest condolences to the entire Johnson Family who are just like family to us. George and Judy Storrs

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**George and Judy Storrs** - May 13, 2018 at 06:58 PM

DK

“ RIP Rick-you will be missed by countless people that you befriended over the years. I've known you since I was 5 and our birthdays are only days apart which we joked about often when we were young. There will be a empty spot in Royal Oak now BUT memories of you and your SPIRIT will last forever. RIP my long time friend. Dave Knack

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**Dave Knack** - May 13, 2018 at 02:38 PM

DK

“ I'm very proud to have known and worked with Rick over the years. When I last spoke with him a couple months ago he still had a positive attitude and was upbeat. It is my pleasure to have counted him as a friend.

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**dave klier** - May 13, 2018 at 01:15 PM

CV

“ Rest im piece Rick. From all the guy's at stoney's landscaping!! 😞

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**Christopher Viau** - May 13, 2018 at 01:04 PM

EM

“ I work at pace inc where rick came in many times to pick up parts! I loved seeing him come in! He was a really nice man! I will miss him!

erin moore - May 13, 2018 at 09:40 AM

LF

“ My condolences to the Johnson family. I'm sad to hear about my friend. Rick and I went to school together, oh, a few decades ago. I always tried to stop in the store every few weeks and say hi. Buying grass seed and fertilizer at the old store or lawn mowers and snow blowers and parts at the newer location. I guess we solved most of the world's problems in our talks. I've had cancer a couple of times, and after Rick was diagnosed our talks changed a lot. Doctors, tests, drugs and procedures became our main topic. But, we still laughed a lot. Rick always asked about my daughter who had endured many brain surgeries for her epilepsy. He wanted to make sure that she was doing well. That is just the kind of guy he was. Rick will be missed by many. Again, my sincere condolences.  
Lou Fleury

Lou Fleury - May 13, 2018 at 07:01 AM

AN

“ Anna lit a candle in memory of Richard H. Johnson



Anna - May 12, 2018 at 08:36 PM

PB

“ It has been many years now since Rick used one of his dad's company trucks to help us move to our home in Lake Orion. And it was a few years later when he and a friend helped build a deck on the house. He never asked for anything and was just one of the most generous guys I've ever known. P. Belanger.

Pat Belanger - May 12, 2018 at 12:28 PM

CL

Remember growing up with my cousin Rick and his sisters when they lived on Webster with that huge willow tree. Great memories there. Also at the cottage in Gaylord. RIP dear cousin.

Carol Leonard - May 12, 2018 at 02:06 PM

DB

“ I remember working with you at Billings Feed Store with your dad, playing softball, riding our motorcycles and generally raising H\*\*\*. I'm very saddened by your passing Rick. May you Rest In Peace my friend.  
Dennis Brenner

Dennis Brenner - May 12, 2018 at 12:05 PM



“ Enduring Grace was purchased for the family of Richard H. Johnson.



May 12, 2018 at 11:57 AM

KS

“ Just a very sad day for Royal Oak and the entire Community. A very special individual and business leader, one who comes along so very rare. I know he's helped thousands of people over the years, me included, and will be sorely missed by everyone. Now Rick, you will be with our Heavenly Father for all eternity. RIP  
Kevin& Jennie Sutherland

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**Kevin Sutherland** - May 12, 2018 at 11:26 AM