



William L. Johnston

November 2, 1932 - October 5, 2024

William (Bill) Johnston, 91 (almost 92!) of Shelby Township, MI passed away peacefully on October 5, 2024. He was born on November 2, 1932, the son of Leo and Agnes Johnston, both of whom predeceased him; and brother to Jim (Joan) Johnston and Eileen Harold.

Bill was a proud Army veteran who served during the Korean War. On August 16, 1958, William was united in marriage to Marlene, his beloved wife of over 64 years, and raised 5 children together. Marlene passed away on April 18, 2023.

Bill was a mechanical engineer who spent his entire career in the aerospace industry but was afraid to fly! Once he retired, he became a volunteer for St. Vincent DePaul delivering meals to those in need. He was deeply religious in his Catholic faith and spent his time attending daily mass praying for his family and lighting candles anytime he was worried about them. He attended a Capuchin Retreat for many years and was blessed by Father Solanus Casey when he was very young, which we believe gave him his very long, healthy life.

Bill cherished his summers spent at a family farm in London, Ontario, when he was young and was a loyal hockey fan, cheering along with his Canadian relatives. He was quiet, thoughtful, intelligent, generous and the kindest man to everyone, and had the best sense of humor being known for his many

funny quotes that we all use often. Bill was an avid reader of fiction and shared his love of Reader's Digest with his children. He was a strong supporter of his family's dreams, always letting them know how proud he was of them. He loved his family deeply and made each one feel like they were his favorite.

Left to cherish his memory are his children: Mary (Gary) Conklin; Joseph (Lisa) Johnston; Judy Johnston (Joe Iacopelli); Michael (Lisa) Johnston, and Amy (Tom) Statly. He was also abundantly blessed with 10 grandchildren, 11 great grandchildren and the love of many other family members and dear friends.

Memorial services will be held at the Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors, 8459 Hall Road (3 Blks E. of Van Dyke) Utica, MI on October 11, 2024 beginning at 1pm. The family will be receiving guests beginning 11am and invite them to stay for the service.

The family asks that you share a memory at sullivanfuneraldirectors.com

Cemetery Details

Great Lakes National Cemetery

4200 Belford Road
Holly Township, MI 48442

Previous Events

Celebration of Life Visitation

OCT 11. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Wm Sullivan and Son Funeral Home
8459 Hall Road
Utica, MI 48317
(586) 731-2411
utica@sullivanfh.com
<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/>

Celebration of Life Service

OCT 11. 1:00 PM (ET)

Wm Sullivan and Son Funeral Home
8459 Hall Road
Utica, MI 48317
(586) 731-2411
utica@sullivanfh.com
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Tribute Wall

WC

“ *With Love, Cook Clan purchased the Enduring Grace for the family of William L. Johnston.*



With Love, Cook Clan - October 10, 2024 at 10:32 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of William L. Johnston.*



October 09, 2024 at 05:21 PM

DF

“ *Dr. Haddad, Dr. Daws, & your work family purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of William L. Johnston.*



Dr. Haddad, Dr. Daws, & your work family - October 08, 2024 at 03:18 PM

DF

“ *Dr. Haddad, Dr. Daws, & your work family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William L. Johnston.*

Dr. Haddad, Dr. Daws, & your work family - October 08, 2024 at 03:18 PM



“ *Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of William L. Johnston.*



October 08, 2024 at 11:38 AM



“ *The Hem Onc Administrative Team purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of William L. Johnston.*



The Hem Onc Administrative Team - October 08, 2024 at 09:19 AM



“ *Sherry purchased the Fairest of All for the family of William L. Johnston.*



Sherry - October 07, 2024 at 10:43 AM



“ *Our hearts and Prayers go out to your family during this sad season of life.*

Phil & Erin Stritzinger - October 06, 2024 at 10:28 AM

LM

“ *To the Johnston Family Members*

So sorry to hear about the passing of Bill. I remember Bill when he and Marlene would attend the Martin family reunion held at the Waterloo Regional Police Hall near Cambridge, Ontario. He was always smiling and had a great sense of humour. He always had great things to say about his parent's farm near London, Ontario, Canada. I would kid him along about having a great Canadian background, doing living south of the border. He would just smile and, with a sparkle in his eye, he would just look at Marlene.



Larry Martin - October 06, 2024 at 07:50 AM

KJ

“ *Uncle Bill was a super friendly, warm, and supportive person to all of us . Great sense of humor who was a great family leader as well as respectful to remind all where the family came from via London, Ont, CA. We looked up to him and will remember him in very positive, happy ways. Kevin J*

Kevin Johnston - October 06, 2024 at 06:30 AM

FB

“ *From Carol Boshaw purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of William L. Johnston.*



From Carol Boshaw - October 05, 2024 at 06:46 PM

FB

“ From Carol Boshaw planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William L. Johnston.

From Carol Boshaw - October 05, 2024 at 06:46 PM



“ Thinking of our fly-in fishing trips to northern Ontario, you taking a solar shower in the buff outside the cabin, watching moose and rocking the cabin all night with your snoring 🤤 Will miss our quiet visits over a cup of tea. Will miss everything about you, best dad a kid could ever hope to have. Love you Pa

Joe Johnston - October 05, 2024 at 06:45 PM



“ Lisa Johnston lit a candle in memory of William L. Johnston



Lisa Johnston - October 05, 2024 at 06:21 PM



“ *To my "Father in Law"*

I couldn't have loved you more if you had been my own father. You always made me feel special and appreciated. Your quiet sense of humor will be missed but will always live on in our memories.

I pray you have found your joy again and that you and Marlene will be sitting across a table in heaven and smiling down on your family that love you both so much. We will always miss you but are rejoicing that you are finally at peace .

Love you always!

Your "Daughter In Law"

Lisa Johnston - October 05, 2024 at 06:19 PM