



## Gary Harold "Jet" Johnson



Photo added by Kathy W. Johnson



Added by Kathy W. Johnson



Added by Lleeah

<b>BIRTH</b>	31 Aug 1943 Elk River, Sherburne County, Minnesota, USA
<b>DEATH</b>	18 Mar 2019 (aged 75) Bloomington, Hennepin County, Minnesota, USA
<b>BURIAL</b>	Fort Snelling National Cemetery Minneapolis, Hennepin County, Minnesota, USA
<b>PLOT</b>	Section 33 Site 4686
<b>MEMORIAL ID</b>	197705140

Gary Harold "Jet" Johnson, age 75, slipped quietly away on March 18, 2019 at the Wealshire of Bloomington from complications of Alzheimer's. He was born in Elk River, MN on August 31, 1943 to Harold August Johnson and Bernyce Elizabeth Stevens. He learned the value of hard work working alongside his father, the owner of Braham Implement Inc., in Braham, MN and on the family farm. After graduating from the local high school in 1961 he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps, a decision that shaped the rest of his life. After his service he enrolled in The University of Minnesota General College and continued to sharpen his sales and marketing skills. In 1974 he went to work for Kawasaki Motors Corporation and was involved in the early test markets for their new watercraft, the Jet Ski, leading to the name he became known by in business, Jet Johnson. His career with KMC took him to Arlington, TX as a Regional Manager and in 1982 he was promoted to Vice-President of Sales, relocating to the corporate office in California. During his eight year tenure one of the many highlights was the year they achieved their first ever #1 in the marketplace. His career at KMC was followed by V-P of Sales for Mercury Marine in Fond du Lac, WI, Parts Unlimited in Janesville, WI and returning home to MN in 1999 with Excelsior-Henderson. His career took him to many states and international destinations but serving in Hawaii while in the military made that lovely chain of islands one of his favorite places to be. His career was cut short by his diagnosis of Alzheimer's in 2006 but his passion for work, setting and reaching goals remained strong, as did his love of golf.

Gary became a father later in life and he shared his life lessons, exuberance and patriotism with his children. He is survived by his beloved son and daughter, their mother, and a large extended family that brought him joy throughout his life. He was predeceased by his father, mother, sister Sherry and brother-in-law Jesse Richardson.

Gary's faith was a source of strength in tough times and joy in the good times. He often started the day by saying with great enthusiasm "This is the day the Lord has made, Rejoice and be glad in it". He would wish that for everyone.

A special thanks to the staff at Wealshire who cared for him during the five years he resided there and to the wonderful hospice team from Park-Nicollet for their dedication and kindness.

Funeral service was held on July 5 at Grace Covenant Church, Bloomington, MN followed by Military Honors Burial at Fort Snelling National Cemetery..

Semper Fidelis

### Family Members

#### Parents



Harold August Johnson  
1918–1973



Bernyce Elizabeth *Stevens* Lavin  
1924–1997

#### Siblings



Sherry Marjorie *Johnson* Richardson  
1942–2013

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**Created by:** Kathy W. Johnson

Added: 21 Mar 2019

Find a Grave Memorial ID: **197705140**

*Find a Grave*, database and images

(<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/197705140/gary-harold-johnson>: accessed 06 October 2022), memorial page for Gary Harold "Jet" Johnson (31 Aug 1943–18 Mar 2019), Find a Grave Memorial ID **197705140**, citing Fort Snelling National Cemetery, Minneapolis, Hennepin County, Minnesota, USA; Maintained by Kathy W. Johnson (contributor **47014093**) Cremated.