



## Horace Johnson

October 19, 1943 - November 22, 2016

Mr. Horace Johnson, 73, of Paris, formerly of Tyler, passed away on Tuesday, November 22, 2016 in Paris.

Memorial services for Horace Johnson will be held on Friday, November 25, 2016 at 6:00 PM at Grace Community Church in Tyler with his son, Ted Johnson, officiating. Visitation will follow at 7:00 P.M. at Grace Community Church.

Private burial will be at Rose Lawn Cemetery in Tyler, under the direction of Stewart Family Funeral Home.

An additional memorial service will be held on Sunday, November 27, 2016 at 1:30 PM at Lamar Avenue Church of Christ in Paris with Patrick Cannon officiating.

Horace was born in Ft. Smith, Arkansas on October 19, 1943 to Ted and Geneva Johnson. His parents, along with his brothers, Harry Edward, Tom, and Paul, moved to Tyler in 1956 where he attended Tyler schools. He received both his undergraduate and master's degrees from Stephen F. Austin University. He married the love of his life, the former Sue Nelson, and together they had four sons, Jay, Eric, Lance, and Ted.

Education was his primary life's work, retiring as principal from Robert E. Lee High School in June, 2000. He loved his family and friends, hunting, fishing, and being outdoors in God's creation.

His life verses were from the Bible: II Timothy 2:1-2 " My son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus, and the things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, these entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also." Because Horace spent his lifetime encouraging and equipping men to be men of God, he has asked that, in lieu of flowers, memorials could be sent to Future Men, 2000 Deer Lane, Kirbyville, MO 65679.

# Previous Events

## Mem. Service

NOV **25**. 6:00 PM (CT)

Grace Community Church  
3215 Old Jacksonville Hwy  
Tyler, TX 75701

## Visitation and reception after service

NOV **25**. 7:00 PM (CT)

Grace Community Church  
3215 Old Jacksonville Hwy  
Tyler, TX 75701

## PRIVATE Burial

NOV **25** (CT)

Rose Lawn Cemetery  
2003 Blue Mountain Blvd.  
Tyler, TX 75703

## Mem. Service

NOV **27**. 1:30 PM (CT)

Lamar Avenue Church of Christ  
3535 Lamar Ave.  
Paris, TX

# Tribute Wall

JH

“ We are so sorry about the loss of your dear loved one. He will be missed by so many people. Life goes by so quickly. We wish that our loved ones could last forever, but life isn't that way. Horace continues to live in the hearts and memories of so many people who will always love him.

What wonderful times you shared together that will always be treasures to remember. Horace's family meant the world to him. He valued the times that he could be with them in so many activities. What a special bond he had with his wife and sons. Horace truly made the most of being a husband and father.

Horace touched the lives of so many people. He always encouraged all students to strive to be their very best. He truly enjoyed his years in education. He inspired all students to cherish their opportunity to learn. He was respected and held in high esteem by all students and the faculty. He impacted more lives than he ever knew.”

We fondly remember the times we spent together with both Horace and Sue as we went through school together. Since his family lived next door to John and his parents, our lives touched each other in many ways. What good and caring friends they were during these times.

John and Hedwig Hardie

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**John and Hedwig Hardie** - December 01, 2016 at 04:43 PM

CV

“ Sweet Sue, we were heartbroken to hear of Horace's death. Never met a man like him. Kind, supportive, humble, a man of integrity with a heart to know and share his love of his Savior, and so funny! He has been and will always will be in our hearts' hall of fame. We will miss him so. Our hearts are with you.

Cathy and Milton

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**Cathy and Milton Vanderpool** - December 01, 2016 at 12:22 PM

TF

“ All parents should be so fortunate to have other adults who take a genuine interest in their children's lives, as in the case of my son Josh. At a time when he needed a Godly mentor to be by his side, Horace Johnson was there. Horace's example, words of wisdom and memory lives on in the life of my son. Now my grandchildren and other young men will benefit greatly from Horace's positive influence and godly nature through Josh. I give thanks to the Lord for the life of Horace Johnson.

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**Tony Fears** - November 29, 2016 at 10:15 AM

SW

“ Having read things others have wrote and hearing words others said, I know for sure how great a man Horace was! He was a man of God, Always. All the memories are so similar. He wasn't just full of knowledge, He walked with God daily. His life touched so many in a positive way. May we all continue in the walk that Horace saw fit to share with us, may we touch others the way Horace touched us.

*Such a Great Godly Man! You will be missed my friend!*  
*Shane Welch Paris, Texas*

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**Shane Welch** - November 26, 2016 at 10:06 AM

CF

“ Aside from being in school and graduating the same year he retired. I always loved his announcements every morning. No matter the weather or what could be going on he always signed of saying, "enjoy your day for it's a beautiful day in East Texas". Tia Johnson and me have a lot of fond memories..from him taking us out to eat, to putting up with us while being office aides, to making sure that our graduation ceremony was a safe one. Rest In Peace, you were a kind sweet person...and all your students at ROBERT E. LEE have many memories and love respect for you. God bless is family and my condolences to them.

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**claudia fuentes** - November 25, 2016 at 05:11 PM

DB

“ Horace and I retired from R E Lee the same year. Before our retirement, I experienced some of the best years of my teaching and coaching years, because Horace was a great mentor and example of how to treat people. He was a teacher's principal. He knew where you were and how to get you to another place in order to better your role in leading kiddos in their education process. I will never forget the morning my mother died. Horace was sitting on the bench outside my room waiting for me to arrive. He told me to call my brother and to do what I needed to do. He said that he would take care of my classroom and I never doubted that. I left with full confidence that everything at R E L was taken care of. Horace had a passion for people and you knew it without question. I thank God that I was able to have those years along side a great man. Robert E Lee was a better place with Horace Johnson at the helm.

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**Don Branam** - November 25, 2016 at 11:27 AM



“ Prayers go out to Mr. Johnson's family. One of my best and my favorite soccer coaches! I really enjoyed playing for him and learned a lot! He will be missed, and was quite a godly man!

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**Barry Propes** - November 24, 2016 at 09:47 PM



“ When you think about Horace Johnson, you have to think about what an *INSPIRATION* he was in all of the lives he touched. I had the privilege of serving as an administrator under Horace while he was the Principal at Lee and I know he certainly inspired me. He set the tone for all we did. He always had that big smile on his face and he always told us all how much he appreciated us. He always set that all important example of Christian living. You didn't have to be around Horace long before you knew what a fine Christian man he was. His *INTEGRITY* was always there, no matter how hard things got. He cared about each of us and it always showed. And, you always had a gut feeling he was praying for you, no matter if you had asked him or not.

*I saw Horace out in town several times through the years after he retired. He always treated me like I was a long lost brother. I will certainly miss those chance encounters with one of God's great servants.*

*Mrs. Johnson, please know our prayers are with you and your extended family.*

*Kelley Vannatta*

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**Kelley Vannatta** - November 24, 2016 at 07:34 PM

HE

“ We first met Horace and Sue in Montana in 1967. We became best of friends and my wife and I were part of their weekly Bible Study. I won't recount the many adventures Horace and I had in the Montana outdoors, but we really shouldn't have rolled rocks off the top of Great Northern Mountain!

*I'll always cherish my last conversation with Horace in October. I called him the day before his birthday and teased him about getting so old. (He's 12 days older than me.) During our conversation he asked me if I remembered hunting grizzly bears in Montana's Bob Marshall Wilderness. I then asked him if I had a pair of tennis shoes in my backpack so I could outrun him? He said, "Probably." (We spent a day around the trailheads of the wilderness area and Horace said, "Our wives were not happy with us.")*

*At the end of our phone call, knowing heaven was likely imminent, I said, "Horace if you get there before I do, will you 'leave the light on for me?'"*

*He said, "I will."*

*Horace, you'll always be one of my best friends. Sue, our love and prayers are with you & family.*

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**HelenLarryMast** - November 24, 2016 at 02:15 PM

AM

“ I left the nursing profession and went into education because of Mr. Johnson. I applied for a school nurse position and he talked me into a teaching position. That same year my dad was diagnosed with colon cancer. I will never forget the note Mr. Johnson left on my desk one day. "Do whatever you need to do to take care of your Dad". It meant the world to me. Another quote that has stuck with me when I went into his office one day was " There's a fine line between being their friend and being their teacher, don't ever let them cross that line" Heaven has gained a very special angel!

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**Annette McGuffee** - November 24, 2016 at 11:59 AM

MS

“ My daughters and I will always remember his sign-off at Lee: "you work hard, you do what's right..." Thankful he was their principal and proud to have taught under him. We will miss you, Mr. Johnson.

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**Marsha Richtel Stone** - November 24, 2016 at 10:51 AM



“ I struggled to find my way in high school, and Mr. Johnson always had time to talk with me. He was honest, gave solid counsel, and took time to make sure we both had something to smile about before he sent me on my way. I'm a better person and a better teacher today because of Mr. Johnson's impact on my life! I'll be sure to say a prayer for his family today, asking for peace and comfort through the holidays!

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**Heather Lockhart** - November 24, 2016 at 10:37 AM

TC

“ Horace mentored me for several years at Grace. I am especially thankful today for his life and the unselfish investment of time that he gave to me. I am a better man, husband, and follower of Christ because of him. My prayers today are for Sue and the family. Rest in Peace my friend and thank you.

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**Todd Cooper** - November 24, 2016 at 08:39 AM

TC

“ Horace mentored me at Grace in 97 & 98. I'm especially thankful on this day for his life and the time he invested in me in which he was storing up eternal treasures. My prayers today are for peace upon Sue and the family.

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**Todd Cooper** - November 24, 2016 at 08:33 AM

LS

“ When he was our small group leader at church we had a very talkative member who was dominating the group with non stop talking. After a while Mr Johnson walked across the room, leaned down toward this person and asked "Where is the off button?" I was amazed at his wisdom, tact, and humor in effectively handling that situation. Never forgot it and had so much respect for him.

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**Lana Seale** - November 24, 2016 at 07:43 AM

CD

“ I had the blessing of being discipled by Horace for a year. He taught me so much and helped make me a better husband, father, and follower of Jesus. I will forever remember our talks, and I am grateful he took the time to speak truth into my life. I am so sorry for your loss, and I am praying for your family.

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**Chris Drake** - November 24, 2016 at 01:16 AM

JF

“ *A Statesman, loved him, a great man.*

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**Jose Feliciano** - November 24, 2016 at 01:09 AM

TR

“ *Johnson Family*

*What a great man. He had a great influence on many of us from the early days at Grace to Lee. I know that he will continue to have that impact on us through life and from above  
He's now in heaven watching over all of us!  
Prayers for the family  
Trevor Hyde*

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**Trevor** - November 23, 2016 at 10:57 PM

SS

*I was blessed to have Mr. Johnson as a principal as well as a math teacher. He always encouraged me to keep trying (especially on the story problems). But my favorite class was when he coached us in flag football. We always had so much fun. He was an incredible Godly man that I respected so much. Heaven has been blessed to have a new angel. My prayers are with the Johnson family during this difficult time.*

*Suzanne Morris Swift*

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**Suzanne Swift** - November 26, 2016 at 01:56 PM



“ *Ted and Lance,*

*I am so saddened to see this. Your dad was always one of my favorites at REL along with the both of you. May you feel God's arms around at this very difficult time. Much love and prayers for both of you and your families.*

*Sheila Beach Baker Rollins*

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**Sheila Rollins** - November 23, 2016 at 10:40 PM



“ *Mr. Johnson was such a pleasure to be around. High school can be so tuff and I often found myself in his office just to talk. Not once was he to busy, not once did he turn me away. I wasn't a troubled teen but looked for guidance. He gave me that and he gave me his time. Both I value to this day 20 some odd years later. My heart, thoughts and prayers go out to the Johnson family. He touched so many lives. ... He and Mr.Crawford. The Myth. The Legend! Rip.*

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**Amanda Rice** - November 23, 2016 at 07:47 PM



“ *Dear Sue and family,*

*I am so sorry to hear about Horace's graduation. I know that he is now celebrating with our heavenly father! I remember him taking me fishing as a young kid and the genuine interest that he showed in me. I always appreciated his positive encouragement! May God wrap you in his loving arms!*

*JP Morris DVM*

*Revelation 4:11*

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**J. P. Morris DVM** - November 23, 2016 at 05:53 PM

CM

“ I'm so sorry to hear about this. I have many special memories of your family connected with Grace. May God fill you with His love and comfort during this tough time.

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**Connie Muller** - November 23, 2016 at 05:28 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Horace Johnson.



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November 23, 2016 at 02:50 PM

ME

“ Psalm 1:1-3 "Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, or stand in the way of sinners, or sit in the seat of mockers. But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on His law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers."

*This is the absolute picture of Horace Johnson in my mind. I am so thankful to have had him model this for me and so many throughout his life. We love you Sue and rejoice with you that Horace is in the presence of the Father. Horace was that tree planted by streams of water...and everything he influenced prospered to God's glory.  
Matt and Karen Edwards (Sam and Leah too)*

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**MATT EDWARDS** - November 23, 2016 at 01:48 PM

SW

“ We are better people, better parents, better friends and more mature Christ followers because we knew and loved Horace!!! This is discipleship at its best.  
Love....Scott & Shari Wilson

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**Shari Wilson** - November 23, 2016 at 01:37 PM

SR

“ Oh my... Such great memories cutting down trees and splitting wood with Horace while we talked about Jesus and discipling younger men... He was the best! Steve Rumpf. See you in Heaven my friend...

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**steve rumpf** - November 23, 2016 at 01:32 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Horace Johnson.



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November 23, 2016 at 12:54 PM

JP

“ My friend and brother forever! Precious memories, how they linger. Hunting, fishing, honest talk, praying, serving, sharing life. And it continues because love never dies! He died, but he is not dead because he passed from death into ago. John P

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**john prestridge** - November 23, 2016 at 11:05 AM

JJ

*Mr Johnson was my best friend .I was lucky enough to have him as a coach at roberts.dogan and john tyler.i was lessed.he was a special man.*

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**Jerry Leon Jenkins** - June 24, 2020 at 11:23 AM