



## David Arthur Johnson

August 7, 1968 - November 24, 2019

David Arthur Johnson, 51, of Traverse City, died Nov. 24, 2019.

David was born in Ann Arbor on Aug. 7, 1968 the youngest child of Dr. Henry "Hank" and Susan (Schubert) Johnson. The family moved to Traverse City, their hometown, soon after. David grew up on Sixth Street with his three siblings, Steven, Karen and Mary.

David attended Traverse City Central High School, where he was an outstanding member of the diving team. He earned his Eagle rank from the Boy Scouts with a project building wooden walkways along the Boardman River. He was also tapped for Order of the Arrow. Scouting was an important part of life for David, a family tradition he shared with his son, father, grandfather and several uncles and cousins. David served as his son's Scoutmaster for Cub Scout Pack 35 of Traverse City.

After a year of college at Michigan Tech and a brief thought of joining the military another family tradition - David joined the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 498 in Traverse City. He loved being a "sparky" and hoped to become a master electrician and open his business one day. An early adopter of home automation systems, he worked for several firms in the area during his career.

David had many interests - he loved nature, photography, flying planes, scuba diving, camping and hiking and enjoyed sharing these pastimes with the people he loved.

David was proud of his family, especially his children, Annika Grace Leary (mother, Nina Leary), of Traverse City; and Arthur Lazlo Johnson (mother and former wife of David, Alison Widmer), of Clearwater Township.

He is also survived by his mother, Susan Johnson, of Traverse City; three siblings, Steven Johnson, of Grawn, Karen (Dag) Jorstad, of Williamsburg, Virginia, and Mary (James) Pittel, of Auburn Hills; seven nieces and nephews, Jennifer Braman and Christopher Johnson, Anna and Erik Jorstad, and Elizabeth, James Jr. and Caroline Pittel. He is also

survived by many aunts, uncles and cousins.

David was preceded in death by his father, Dr. Henry "Hank" Johnson; uncles, Col. Harold "Red" Johnson and Arthur Schubert; and his beloved dog, Terra.

Private family funeral services have been held.

Memorial contributions may be made in David's name to the Michigan Crossroads Council Boy Scouts of America or to the charity of one's choice.

# Comments

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“ On Friday the 23 of November my tiny person was trying, again, to get the two strings of LED lights that he had gotten for his birthday in September to work together as one. When he would turn them to ‘blue’ let’s say, and one would be blue and the other would be orange or red or something besides blue. Being that I was trained as an electrician and he was beside himself trying to figure them out and I’m the Dad, I offered my assistance back in September and October but was told that “It’s a software problem, Dad.” and he’s the techi-guy so I left him to it.

Finally on the 23 he was at his wits end and so was ready to accept some help with his tech problem. Mom went up and started going through the manuals and the web site with him and at some point I was called for some ladder work to replace the double sided tape and to secure the electrical connections. After a bit I had gotten the lights reattached to the ceiling and went about reconnecting the power cord to the first set of lights in the set of two when I noticed an arrow on the power side that needed to line up with the plug side of the light strip. The thought, ‘I wonder if the arrows between the first and second sets are aligned?’

“Hey Jay, are there arrows on the ends over there?” I asked.

“Yep.”

“Would you line them up and plug them in, please?”

He did and Mom turned them on and a smile as big as all the outdoors spread across his face. As a dad my heart melted and as an electrician I thought ‘Software, schmoft-ware!’

I thought about calling David and relaying the tale of kids, technology, electronics, and the superiority of electricity but it was late and the weekend so I didn’t want to bother my friend Davids weekend with kids stuff so planned on calling on Monday. I wish I’d bothered him now. He’d’ve gotten a kick out of the whole chaos-ieness and been thoroughly amused at the simplicity of the fix.

I’ll miss David he was a darn good guy.

**C. Lampman** - December 13, 2019 at 02:48 PM

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“ I'm shocked and saddened to tears to hear of my friend. We were friends in high school. Then later on in 1997 he moved into my parents old house with me and were roommates for some time. We did lots of things together have many pics and great memories, we went many places and had great times. Later on I saw him again living on his own. I will miss my dear friend he was always great with my daughter janice they were close. Love always to you Dave. Love Renee and Janice



**Renee cermak** - December 10, 2019 at 02:41 PM

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“ Sorry to hear that David has passed,,we were in grade school,at central,,thank you for your friendship David,,,

**Donna sievert** - December 09, 2019 at 05:12 PM

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“ I was very sorry to hear of my cousin David's passing. Even though I was not a part of David's growing up years due to our difference in age, or his adult life due to geography, I can recall a couple of years ago at my father's memorial service he made a special point to seek me out to say hi. He greeted me with a big smile, as in the page photo, and seemed a genuinely happy guy. He brought a sense of joy to that moment, as I imagine he did to life.

To my Aunt Sue and all of the Johnson family, you have my most heartfelt condolences in your loss. May peace be with you all.

Mike Schubert

**Mike Schubert** - November 30, 2019 at 07:30 AM

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“ Sue, Karen, Mary, Steve - so very sorry to learn of David's passing. Hugs.

**Barbara Coulter** - November 29, 2019 at 09:59 AM