



## Stuart A. Johnson

May 20, 1922 - June 10, 2012

Stuart Arthur Johnson, 90, passed away in Traverse City, MI on June 10, 2012.

Stuart was born on May 20, 1922 in Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada. He was the fifth child of Cornelius and Jean (Murray) Johnson. At the age of 4 he moved with his parents and siblings to the family farm established in 1885 just north of Rushville, NE. For the next 82 years he was involved with both working and running the farm; farming was a great joy of his life.

In 1940 he graduated from high school and formally began working with his parents in the daily operations of the family farm. In October of 1943 he married his school classmate Wilma Day. They were blessed with two children, Stuart Allen and Barbara Jean. In 1961 he joined his brother and mentor Bennett to work at Stockmen's National Bank in Rushville, all the while continuing to participate with the farming operation on evenings and weekends. He retired from Stockmen's in 1985 but continued helping with the farm. In the 1990's he was busy seeding native grass seeds in the community in compliance with the government's Conservation Reserve Program (CRP); when done he had seeded 40,000 acres.

In early 2000 Wilma's health began to fail and Stuart devoted all his time and energy to her care until she passed away in September of 2006. In 2009 he moved to Traverse City, MI where he kept active with grandchildren and great grandchildren, including helping them to start their first vegetable garden. He also baked bread on a nearly daily basis in order to keep up with growing demand from family and friends. He greatly enjoyed his weekly phone calls with his siblings and daily e-mail communications with many other friends and family; he was always ready to sit for a quick visit.

In 1943 Stuart traveled to Omaha, NE to enlist in the army. Although registered in the draft and classified a desirable alien, his enlistment was rejected because he was not a US citizen. After finally receiving his citizenship papers he joined the US Army in April, 1945. He served until the end of the war before returning home.

Stuart had other business ventures as well. In the mid 1950's he ventured into the automotive business, operating a Ford dealership in Lusk, WY, with his brothers Bennett and Murray. This turned out to be a short term venture for them and Stuart's love of life as a farmer brought him back to Rushville to once again work the family farm.

He was a member of the Masonic Lodge in Rushville and served in all the offices, including Worshipful Master. He was appointed to the Grand Lodge of Nebraska as an assistant Grand Custodian and received his 60th year membership pin in 2008. He was also a member of the Scottish Rite for over 50 years.

Wood working was another passion of Stuart's. He completed much of the work himself when building his own home, helped in remodeling his parent's home, and finished numerous projects for his children's homes. He made several pieces of furniture, cabinets and completed many other unique wood working projects.

Survivors include his two children; Stuart Allen (Shirley) Johnson, Rushville, NE and Barbara Jean (Rod) Michaelson, Traverse City, MI. Grandchildren; Sharlyn (Robb) Zapp, Phoenix, AZ, Kendra (Marc) Burkholder, Traverse City, MI and Stuart Aaron (Beth) Johnson, Seattle, WA. Stuart is survived by 8 great grandchildren, one sibling, Evaline Norman, Crawford, NE and a sister-in-law Ruth Johnson, Rapid City, SD.

He was preceded in death by his parents, brothers Murray and Bennett, sister Mary Sanderson, 3 sisters-in-law and 5 brothers-in-law.

A Celebration of Life service will be held at Central United Methodist Church in Traverse City, MI on June 15 at 11:00am, and at the United Methodist Church in Rushville, NE at a future date.

Inurnment will be in the Fairview Cemetery in Rushville, next to Wilma, the love of his life.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the Rushville, NE Volunteer Fire Department. Donations may be sent to Security First Bank, PO Box 550, Rushville, NE 69360.

The family is being served by Reynolds Jonkhoff Funeral Home.

# Events

---

**JUN**   **Memorial Service**   11:00AM  
**15**

---

Central United Methodist  
222 Cass Street, Traverse City, MI, US

# Comments

---



“ Thanks, Shar, for sharing the obituary with me. Grandpa Stu was certainly a hard-working, talented, and admirable man, and it is easy to see why he was loved and admired so much by all who knew him. How I wish I would have had someone like Grandpa Stu in my family. His dedication to his family helps me to see why your heart often longs for the farm and places where families gather. It has to be difficult to leave the comfort, warmth and safety of that environment. I'm glad you are able to carry the wonderful memories with you and the learning that allows you to nurture and sustain your family in much the same way. What a gift you are!  
Hugs,  
Carole

**Barbara Michaelson** - June 16, 2012 at 09:38 AM



“ Dear Barbara and Stuart, I just wanted to take a moment of your time and tell you how sorry I am for the loss of your father. It is always hard to let a loved one go, even though they are free from any pain and are happily reunited with loved ones. What a great reunion Stuart will have with his sweetheart and all the other family on the other side. I never knew Stuart real well but remember him when he and Wilma and Aunt Jean used to come and visit us in Canada. I am not sure that the two of you were not with them one time. Family is so very important. My love and the best to you and your families at this special time.  
Charlie Murray

**Charlie Murray** - June 16, 2012 at 10:02 AM



“ Shar,  
Your grandpa sounds like a wonderful man. Boy, he did a lot during his life time...it is strange to read people's lives in comparison to our lives today...so many of us do something and that's what they do where your grandfather did so much. Neat that his love was farming and helped get that started with grandchildren helping them start their own gardens. I liked the picture you had of him with the kids. What a wonderful thing to have your children know your grandpa and their great grandpa...your yearly visits to NB was well worth it so they can know their family there and know their roots. Sorry for his passing but it sounds as though his time here was spent well especially with his family and as someone mentioned on web site his legacy lives on in all of his children and grandchildren.  
Thanks for sharing that!  
Rendy

**Barbara Michaelson** - June 16, 2012 at 09:37 AM

---



“ 1 file added to the album Stuart, Family & Friends



**Barbara Michaelson** - June 16, 2012 at 08:26 AM

---



“ Dear Barbara Jean, Stuart Allen and families, We were saddened to hear of your father's death. I know that there is a hugh reunion in Heaven. It is so hard to let them go, but the assurance that we will be together in His Devine Grace helps smooth the edges. I have such wonderful memories of growing up near all of your family. We all have been blessed to have had this great gentle man in our lives. With our love and prayers, Marcia and Lew Weaber

**Lewis Marcia Weaber** - June 14, 2012 at 03:03 PM

---



“ Grandpa Stu's family....He frequently mentioned the joy he would have in being with Wilma in Heaven and I know they will enjoy the reunion.....Thank you for the example of love and caring that you all showed to Uncle Stuart in his most important last years of life.....Love Roger

My Dear Barbara, Kendra, Rod, Marc, and family~

My heart aches for those of you “left behind”, but I’m filled with joy for Grandpa Stu that he is reunited with Gramma Daisy and all of those dear ones who went before him. Now, he and Gramma are lovingly looking on down on all of you and hoping you will not weep too many tears, or for too long for him. His baptismal promises are now fulfilled and he is basking in the peace and joy of the life everlasting. When the time comes, he and Gramma will have all ready for you. Just think of the stories he is able to tell Gramma about the great-grandchildren!

Fresh grief hurts physically. The tears come when least expected. Let them flow! Feel all of the pain of the loss of dear Pa’s earthly presence from your life. It’s a void no one can fill. But, you know what he would want you to do.....till the soil, plant the seeds, and nurture the crops in his absence.

Please know that we stand ready to be of whatever help and comfort we might offer to you at this time of grief and the “new normal”—a term I despise. Right now, you want the old, familiar, comfortable back. But, we are the Easter people, and we cling to the comfort of the promise that Grandpa Stu is exactly where he belongs at this time and for all eternity. This is about him—not those who miss him desperately.

What a wonderful, 90 year stay, in our midst. What a legacy he leaves in all of you! Know that you are loved~

Leslie

Wilma, Mary, Murray, Bennett, Grandma & Grandpa----all together.

Love, Karen

My sympathy to you and your family. I can imagine his reunion with your Mom. I, of course, imagine his reunion with my Dad, too. I am glad to have known your Mom and Dad both through my folks and through your Mom and I being in P.E.O. together. It is nice you got to have your Dad close to you the last few years. God bless all of you and surround you with his love during these days ahead.

Sincerely,  
Jeanie Snyder



“ Thank you so much for sharing your journey- I will keep you and your extended families in my thoughts and prayers as you plan services of remembrance. Sending you lots of love,  
Melissa

To all of Stuart's family, Our sympathy and prayers to all of you. Whenever he comes back home, the Church family will be here for you to help in whatever way we can. In Christ's love, Deanna and Bill Bruns

Barbara, Stuart Allen and families,  
We are so sad to hear of your dad's passing but celebrate with you the FACT that we know he is in his final, eternal home . . . where we will see him again. Jesus assured us of this, and we know He had it right ! We will miss our dear uncle Stu. What a kind, dear man. I enjoyed (and appreciated) having his perspective of our grandparents and their life on the farm. He was a comfort in our dad's passing, too. Phone conversations with him were always lively, humorous and enjoyable (and long- ha!). How quickly he passed. A blessing and a surprise. Thank you for caring for him so lovingly and thoroughly. Love, Kathy and Kent

I am so sorry for your loss.  
I am forever grateful to have been a part of your life and in result a part of grand-pa Stu and Daisy's life.  
I always remember the genuine interest he took in what was going on in my life and how intently he would listen to me speak as I told him.  
He and Grand-ma daisy would hug you soooooooooo tight. They knew the importance of a hug even when you didn't think you needed one.  
I know he is looking back at his journey with pride as he should. He will now be looking out for all of us, I am sure.  
Love you and many grand-pa stu style hugs to you!!!!  
XOXOX

**Reynolds Jonkhoff** - June 14, 2012 at 07:49 AM



“ Stu and Barb,so sorry to read about the lost of your father! Thoughts and prayer to you and your families!

**Kay (Beguin) McGrath** - July 29, 2012 at 11:26 PM



“ How i got my wife back through the help of pepokolovespell@gmail.com

Hello friends, an awesome and amazing testimony about a Great spell caster i really love to share. My name is Davis lawse from the Canada. Getting my wife back is what i least expected and could never imagine. I and my wife have been married for five years and we have been living happily but all of a sudden she changed completely and turned away from me and i never knew what was going on, i tried to ask her but she refused to tell me what the problem is, and as time went on she sought for a divorce. I was so worried and confused, and i did all my possible best to get her back but it wasn't easy, i thought all hope was lost, and during my search for a way out, a friend of mine who had similar problem told me about a great spell caster called Dr PEPOKO who helped him get back his wife also. I

never believe in spell casting in my entire life or a magic because i never thought it will work but i tried to give this man a chance and to my greatest surprise, He cast a spell to bring her back, but today we are back together into a lovely home with three beautiful kids. Thank you Dr PEPOKO. We are happy together again and i am using this opportunity to tell anyone passing similar situation to contact him on [pepokolovespell@gmail.com](mailto:pepokolovespell@gmail.com) website [www.pepokolovespelltemple.blogspot.com](http://www.pepokolovespelltemple.blogspot.com)

Davis Lawse

Here is my details also if you wish to contact me personal::: [davis.lawse40@gmail.com](mailto:davis.lawse40@gmail.com)

**Davis lawse** - June 14, 2017 at 09:47 AM

---



“ We are so sorry, but I know he was ready. If there is anything here that needs to be done that I can do please let me know.

Terry

Barb, Rod and family.

So sorry to hear, I know he was ready to be with Wilma I prayed yesterday that there would be no prolonged discomfort for him. It seems that God was ready to receive him. I will be thinking of you all with your loss.

Love Ken

Barbara and family,

So sorry about Grampa Stu, but thankful he didn't have to suffer long.

Let us know about his celebration of life plans.

Remember the good times.

Love, Kris

Amen and blessings to Grandpa Stu. Although I only met him a couple of times at Sam's Club, his gentleness and love of family was absolutely evident.

Love to all, Carol, Jim and Julie

Barb & Rod & family,

Both Jean and I send to you our blessings and prayers through this moment of grief.

May our Father in Heaven grant you and yours the hallowed blessings that are offered by our Lord to all who believe in Him.

In Him, Pastor Al & Jean

So very sorry to hear of Grandpa Stu's passing. Also sorry never got a chance to meet him but sort of got to know him through stories you shared. May you and your extended family find peace and comfort in the love you shared. Please do let me know the time and place for the gathering...

With warm thoughts and distant hugs,

Satish

Oh what a heartbreak and blessing. I hope you know how sad Mom and I are to have such a great man pass from our presence. But how assured that Stuart is in the presence of our loving God.

Our loving sympathies to you. Know there will be a big hole in your lives for some time.

Judi and Anna Mae

Barb & Rod & families, We will all miss him a great deal but know he is at Peace now and joins all of his treasured loved ones who have gone before him. I know he will take over the "bread making" up in his heavenly home and Barb, he will hear you telling him, "use whole wheat flour-it's healthier!". You were a very caring daughter and worked very hard to make his transition to his new home in TC go as smooth as possible. The trips you included him in with Rod and yourself were very special as you attempted to keep him connected to his Nebraska family & friends. Jim & I

enjoyed his friendship and the love he showed us and his wealth of information on many subjects. We will miss him but not forget him.

Our love and sincere sympathy, Barbara & Jim

Sympathies to you all. What a wonderful and joyous reunion there must be in the Heavens today!!

If you can let us know when the service will be, we would appreciate it.

Our best to you all,  
Stacy, Jim, Sky & families

**Reynolds Jonkhoff** - June 14, 2012 at 07:48 AM

---



“ Dear Barbara and Rod,

We are so saddened to receive your news that Grandpa Stu has passed. I know this may seem strange but I had struggled to respond to your first email about Grandpa Stu's MRI results, but woke up last night about the time you said he had completed his journey feeling an urgency to let you know he was in our prayers and vowing to get an email off to you first thing in the morning. I opened my emails this morning and saw the one from you and knew in my heart of hearts what it was going to say.

I am sure this has been such an emotionally draining time for you. It is never easy, no matter how much we think we have prepared ourselves. We will miss seeing him take his daily walk to the mail box, his lively conversations about life on the farm and what is happening in today's world as well as his daily dose of FOX News! We feel honored to have known him, even for such a brief time.

Jay and I send our love and prayers to you and your family. Wishing you wonderful, fond memories of Grandpa Stu and look forward to talking with you in person when we finally make it to Traverse City sometime next week.

Hugs,  
Lyn and Jay

My thoughts and love are with you.  
Love,  
Jean Norman

After the tears, we give thanks to a merciful and loving Father who walked Stuart quickly through the “valley and shadow of death... to dwell in the house of the Lord forever”. He has joined the “Flowers of the Forest”; those family members who went before him.

To Mackenna, Koen and Kaelan, you brought great joy to your Great Granddad. Maybe Grandpa Stu is having a free ice cream cone with Grandma Wilma. With many memories of this dear, kind, and gentle man, he will live in our hearts and minds.  
May Grace, Peace and Love be with you all,  
Carole Murray Williams.

Precious church family and friends,  
I just got off the phone with Shirley Johnson who is asking for prayer for the entire and extended Johnson family.  
Stuart's father, also Stuart, passed away last night in Michigan after a short bout with a brain tumor.  
Please take the time to stop what you are doing just long enough to lift the family up into the loving arms and comfort of our eternal father and savior.  
It sounds like there will be a service in the area at a later time. Mr. Johnson was 90 years old but as many of us know we can never be fully prepared to say goodbye to our daddy's.

Shirley and Stuart have been married 45+ years so this is quite a loss for her as well.  
Thank you.

Sue

What a lovely message from your church. I know you and Dad are really busy right now but I hope you are able to take the necessary time you need to grieve the loss of Grandpa. I'm privileged to say I had a chance to know him for 10 years and will always remember my conversations with him fondly. I'm glad he didn't suffer long and is able to be home with Grandma Daisy and his siblings. Maybe he'll run into my Mom up there! Wouldn't that be nice?! It'll be 5 years on 6/19.

Love to you both,  
Beth

Kendra and Barb: I am so sorry for your loss, even though you know it's coming, it's still hard to deal with. Please let us know if there is anything we can do. But please know that you and your families are in our thoughts. Love,

Judy

**Reynolds Jonkhoff** - June 14, 2012 at 07:48 AM

---



“ Dear Families and Friends,

My deepest sympathies are with you all. And yet I feel joy because I know Grandpa Stu is with His Lord in paradise. I feel honored to have known him. He was a very kind soul who included me in his list of those for whom to bake bread! I enjoyed his stories of his family and life and the many places he'd been and seen. I was always impressed by how keen a mind he had. He was never afraid to share his politics. It was clear that he cared deeply about our nation. He was very strong and able. I remember watching him bend over to place a container into a very low kitchen drawer. For his age that was amazing to me. And lastly what a blessing for him to remain so independent for as long as he did. Thank you very much for informing me of his passing. I believe he is in his glory now--at peace and happy to see those he has missed. Hold fast to your memories. Feel proud of the legacy he is leaving! May the Father wrap you in his loving arms and bring you all comfort. Linda

Dearest Rod and Barbara,

At 10:30pm last night, I arrived home after a 10-day photo trip to SE Washington, the Columbia River Gorge and the Oregon coastline.

So, I am just now getting to my computer messages.

I am overwhelmed with emotion at your loss. I first met your Mom and Dad, probably 35 years ago, in Romeo. I have some of your Mom's recipes that you gave me that I still use. I can't count how many times over the years I have made her Texas sheet cake when I needed to take something to a get-together!

Even though I did not see them often over the years, I feel a real connection. For all of us, Grandpa Stu has been the last of the parents we have known. When we were with you last September, we were crazy about him. He was kind and sharp and smart and connected to all of us. He had that infectious smile and when we talked to him he told good, interesting stories. And he asked about us and our lives, too. He remembered the side of beef that came to us from Nebraska. He was a cute man, also. What a compliment to give an older man!

I am sending my deepest sympathy and also my admiration for you and for Grandpa Stu, who lived and full and good life.

Well done, my dear friends, well done.

I love you,

Barb

Reynolds Jonkhoff - June 14, 2012 at 07:47 AM