



# Lawrence A. Johnson

APR 13, 1928 - AUG 5, 2016



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## Lawrence A. Johnson

APR 13, 1928 - AUG 5, 2016

Lawrence A. Johnson, age 88, passed away Friday morning, August 5, 2016. He was born April 13, 1928 in Muskegon to Carl and Irene (Brueck) Johnson. Larry graduated from Pasadena College in California and was a U.S. Air Force Veteran of the Korean War. He worked for many years as a graphic artist for Dana Printing, Pippel Paterson Printing in Grand Haven, Zondervan Bibles and Books, and AM PM Advertising, and after retiring (for fun) worked for Craig's Hardware. Larry had also owned and operated Lawrence Art Studio in Lakeside for 15 years. While painting has always been his true interest, he has also been involved in the performing arts as a speaker and music soloist, and as a successful set designer for both movie and TV productions. Larry was also an avid golfer and enjoyed having breakfast on Friday's with the Muskegon Heights graduating class of 1946 Alumni Breakfast Group. He was a member of Forest Park Covenant Church where he had enjoyed singing in the choir and was a big supporting member of Youth for Christ. SURVIVORS include 3 children: Brian (Deborah) Johnson of North Carolina, Nadine (Bradley) VanPatten, Renee Johnson both of Twin Lake; 8 grandchildren: Eric (Karla) Johnson, Crystal (Casey) Schroader, Ariana Johnson, Adrienne (Brandon) Schmitt, Stephanie (Christopher) Watts, Bruce (Sara) All, Daane All, Easten Johnson; 7 great-grandchildren: Corbin, Maria, Taylor, Kristin, Piper, Collin, Olivia; former spouse, Grace Johnson; dear loved ones: Jan Paulson and her son, Tom; and Kelly and Dan Harris and family. He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Kenneth Johnson; and sister, Betty Pelkey. A CELEBRATION OF LARRY'S LIFE will be held 11:00 AM Wednesday, August 10, 2016 at Forest Park Covenant Church with Pastor Larry Bush officiating. Memorials to the Wounded Warrior Project will be appreciated. Share memories with the family at their On-line Guest Book at [www.sytsemafh.com](http://www.sytsemafh.com) Arrangements by The Sytsema Chapel, 737 Apple Ave., (231) 726-5210



# Events


**Lawrence A. Johnson**

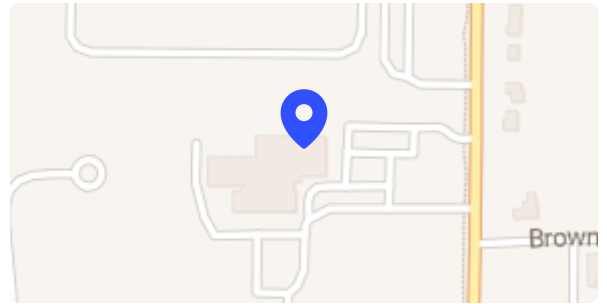
APR 13, 1928 - AUG 5, 2016

## Celebration of Life

 **Wednesday**, August 10, 2016

 11:00 AM ET

 **Forest Park Covenant Church**  
3815 Henry St., Norton Shores MI 49441





## Tribute Wall

**Lawrence A. Johnson**

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**Chuck Simmons** posted:

Larry was my occasional painting buddy and I learned a lot about watercolors from his beautiful work. At one point in 1980, he and I were both art directors at competing ad agencies in Grand Rapids, and he was the president of Grand Valley Artists club in Grand Rapids when I became the publicity officer. That is how we met and hit it off as friends, immediately. We both lost our jobs at the agencies on the same day and we went drinking. We nearly opened our own agency, but I went to work at the advertising department at Wolohan Lumber, and helped him get referred to AM/PM ADVERTISING in Midland. We stayed in touch for many years. I took him on two backpacking trips I will never forget. He joined me once on Beaver Island for a watercolor trip. For a while, my art was in his Muskegon art gallery. I last talked with him in 2010, and we planned a get together that never happened. Then, I lost contact with him. I assumed he may have passed, but heard nothing from Brian or other family. I just discovered this today, on March 17, 2020. Larry was a great friend, and now I can finally know what happened and mourn him properly. I will treasure the book and arrow he gave me, and remember him with love and friendship. I'll miss you buddy! Until I see you in the hereafter, keep on painting, my friend! I am doing the same. I will never forget you.

March 17 at 2:20 PM



**Bill Gustafson** posted:

I enjoyed singing in the tenor section of the church choir with Larry. We played some golf together as well, when he felt up to it! We had a sweet moment one day when he was visiting his dear friend, Jan Paulson at Seminole Shores Center. Larry, Jan and I celebrated Holy Communion together around a little table. We felt our Lord's presence. Now they can celebrate in heaven together. Blessings to his memory and comfort to the family. Bill Gustafson

August 9 at 3:29 PM



**Wendy Carlson** posted:

Renee and family I am so sorry for your loss. Your father was a great and talented man and will be missed. He is in his forever home now and pain free. Please let me know if you need anything. I love you

August 8 at 8:52 AM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Lawrence by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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