



Harold Milton Johnston

Harold Milton Johnston passed away on Saturday, February 10, 2024 at the age of 82 at his home in Woodstock, Alabama following a short and courageous battle with cancer but ultimately found solace in his heavenly abode.

He was born June 27, 1941 to James Harold Johnston and Mary Franke Crowder of Rock Creek, Alabama and lived for many years in Jefferson county. He had a long career in law enforcement, working as a policeman in Fairfield and Midfield AL, Jefferson County Deputy Sheriff and Investigator, SWAT Team member, Investigator in the Jefferson County, Alabama district attorney's office, and helped establish the Child Advocacy Center in Bessemer, Alabama. He worked for many years and retired from the Jim Walter Mines as an electrician. He served for over 37 years in the U.S. Military, joining the U.S. Army National Guard at age 18, retiring as Command Sergeant Major in the U.S. Army National Guard for the state of Alabama. He was an avid outdoorsman, spending countless hours hunting and fishing.

He was preceded in death by his parents, James Harold Johnston and Mary Franke Johnston, one son, Geoffrey Johnston, and one grandson, Bradley Johnston. He is survived by his wife of 14 years, Kathy Johnston of Woodstock, AL; his sister, Judy F. Johnston of Harpersville, AL; his son, Captain James P Johnston (Liz) of Norfolk, VA; his daughter Ginger Johnston Pilgrim (Gary) of Eads, TN; one stepson, Michael Winkleblack (Cheyenne) of Woodstock, AL; eleven grandchildren – Crisan Johnston of Portland, OR; Corinne Johnston Schmidt (Kevin) of Linden, VA, Jonathan Pilgrim (Jessica) of Eads, TN, Dallis Johnston (Shakarah) of Kissimmee, FL, Garrett Pilgrim (Natalie) of Cordova, TN, Brookelin Johnston Bennett (Tyler) of Montgomery, AL, Savannah Johnston of Norfolk, VA, Ashton Johnston (Holden) of Birmingham, AL, Brian Johnston of Wilmer, AL, Kathryn and Mia Winkleblack of Woodstock, AL; five great-grandchildren (Kingston Johnston, Rhea Schmidt, Lucas Schmidt, Ginger Grace Pilgrim, and Everleigh Bennett)

He was a member of the Fraternal Order of Police, United States Deputy Sheriff's Association, a Trustee of the Bessemer Elk's Lodge #721 and various other civic organizations.

A memorial service for friends and family will be held on Sunday, February 18, 2024 at 1:30 p.m. at Brooklane Baptist Church, 160 Brooklane Dr., Hueytown, AL 35023 with Bro. Fritz Harter officiating. An interment with full military honors will be scheduled in the near future at the Alabama National Cemetery in Montevallo, AL. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations in his

memory to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, the Alabama Baptist Childrens' Home or St Joseph' s Indian School in Chamberlain, SD.