



## Ralph W. Johnson III

March 18, 1949 - February 27, 2024

Ralph Waldo Johnson III passed away February 27, 2024.

Born March 18, 1949, in Spartanburg, South Carolina, Ralph was a son of the late Ralph Waldo Johnson, Jr. and Katherine Greer Johnson. He was a graduate of The United States Naval Academy and served his active duty prior to returning to Greer. Ralph joined his father and brother in Utility Sales, Inc. and was a member of many electrical contractor organizations. He was a lifetime member of Memorial United Methodist Church where he served in various leadership positions such as Lay Leader and Adult Sunday School teacher. He loved his church and especially enjoyed sharing children's sermons.

Ralph was honored to serve on the board of CBL State Savings Bank since 1994, giving him an opportunity to support the growth of his hometown and community. He was passionate about overseeing CBL Foundation's investments and selecting, then awarding many grants and scholarships. He loved watching golf (with the sound off); reading history, especially military history; and riding his tractor.

Surviving are his wife of 51 years, Harriet Cloninger Johnson; two brothers, Tom Johnson and Chip Johnson; a sister, Adair Johnson; brother-in-law, Patrick Cloninger (Holly); sister-in-law, Lesli Cloninger; nieces and nephews, Jessica Dumm (HP), Courtney Johnson, Jud Johnson (Tawny), Liza Price (Tyler), Will Edwards (Olivia), and Lyndsey Cloninger; and eight great-nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held 3:00 p.m. Sunday, March 3, 2024, at Memorial United Methodist Church conducted by Rev. George Riser, Rev. George Strait, and Rev. Joe Cate. Webcasting will be available at [www.memorialgreer.com/athome](http://www.memorialgreer.com/athome).

Visitation will be held 1:30-2:45 p.m. Sunday, March 3, 2024, at Memorial United Methodist Church.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Memorial United Methodist Church Scholarship Fund, 201 N. Main Street, Greer, South Carolina 29650. Online condolences may be made at [www.thewoodmortuary.com](http://www.thewoodmortuary.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 3. 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM (ET)

Memorial United Methodist Church  
201 N Main St  
Greer, SC 29650-1924  
(864) 877-0956

## Memorial Service

MAR 3. 3:00 PM (ET)

Memorial United Methodist Church  
201 N Main St  
Greer, SC 29650-1924  
(864) 877-0956

# Tribute Wall

PL

“*Harriet, Ralph will always be alive in our memories. Ralph was special. In a time in our lives when we were being shaped and molded for the rest of our lives, Ralph was the best. I am smiling just remembering those days with our band of misfits living (bad word, should say "surviving") on 7-4. Fair winds my friend.*

*Pat Lee*

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**Pat Lee** - March 02, 2024 at 11:19 PM

DW

*Harriet, I'm so very sorry to hear about Ralph. He was a very special person and will be remembered my many. Praying for you and all who loved him 🙏*

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**Debby Carman Williams** - March 04, 2024 at 04:58 PM

JB

“*Harriet we are so sorry to hear about Ralph. He was such a good soul.*

*You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers! Love Chuck and Judy*

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**Judy Barnes** - March 02, 2024 at 06:39 PM

RG

“ Ralph was one of my company-mates at the Naval Academy. He was one of the few who seemed to take our new life there in his stride. Having grown up in New York City and not having been in contact with many Southerners, Ralph was a true gentleman in every sense of the word. I appreciated Ralph’s friendship and admired his leadership qualities which followed him through his albeit too short life. In the Jewish tradition, for those who depart from us too early, the grave is marked with the symbol of a tree cut short. As a tribute to Ralph, I’ve planted trees as a memorial to live on in his memory. With deepest sympathy to Harriet and extended family, I add my condolences.

*Robert Goldstein*

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**Robert Goldstein** - March 02, 2024 at 05:55 PM

RJ

“ Robert J. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ralph W. Johnson III.

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**Robert J.** - March 02, 2024 at 05:37 PM

CC

“ Crescent Supply Company purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Ralph W. Johnson III.



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**Crescent Supply Company** - March 01, 2024 at 06:42 PM

CS

“ Christine & Steve planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ralph W. Johnson III.

Christine & Steve - March 01, 2024 at 04:01 PM

CS

“ Christine & Steve purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Ralph W. Johnson III.



Christine & Steve - March 01, 2024 at 04:01 PM

B&

“ Byron &. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ralph W. Johnson III.

Byron &. - March 01, 2024 at 11:46 AM

HA

“ Henderson Accounting planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ralph W. Johnson III.

Henderson Accounting - March 01, 2024 at 10:49 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Ralph W. Johnson III.*



March 01, 2024 at 10:49 AM



“ *Ralph was always a kind and fun cousin. He will be missed. Sending love and caring thoughts to his family.*

**Carol Walston** - February 29, 2024 at 05:26 PM



“ *Harriett,  
I am so sorry to hear of Ralph's passing. You told me many stories of your adventures together and y'all were so blessed to have each other for so many years. Sending you love, hugs and prayers in your time of sorrow.  
Cindy Davis*

**Cindy Davis** - February 29, 2024 at 04:24 PM



*Harriett and family I am so sorry for your loss . You are all in my prayers, and that God would give you all peace. Ralph will be missed when I'm hanging clothes on the line L O L he was always cutting grass. We would do our little wave at each other , never really talk too much. If you ever need to talk, you have my number. Jason and I wanted to come to the funeral but with things going on at our church we did not make it. We are sorry but you have been in our heart in our prayers. Tell Jeb It was good to talk to him the other day so happy he has a little family. Take care, love and prayers to you all 🙏❤️😊*

**Jason Jackson , Michelle Jackson** - March 03, 2024 at 04:58 PM

BM

“ I will never forget how Ralph and his dad before him, “Dub”, were such wonderful supporters of my dad, W.T. Duncan during his many years at Utility Sales. As others have said, Ralph was a true Southern Gentleman and a wonderful Christian man. Greer has lost a great one! Harriet, Tom, Chip, and Adair, you have my deepest sympathy. He will be truly missed.

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**Beth Duncan Meller** - February 29, 2024 at 03:02 PM

HS

“ Ralph was my dad's (Kenneth McKay '72) best friend and Naval roomie. We grew up knowing them as "Ralph and Harriet", it was never just "Ralph" or just "Harriet".....always "Ralph and Harriet". My parents passed away 3 years ago and Ralph and Harriet were great support for us. One of my youngest memories just so happened to take place at Ralph and Harriet's home in S.C. They had horses and I was in elementary school. I was put on the back of a horse and she took off. I will never forget my dad running after me, all the while Ralph was chuckling in the background. Many of the pictures of my parents that I cherish include Ralph and Harriet. Harriet, I am so sorry.

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**heather shields** - February 29, 2024 at 09:31 AM

KW

“ Sorry for your loss. Praying for the family.

*Karen & Billy Woodward*

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**Karen Woodward** - February 28, 2024 at 10:16 PM

DL

“ To me Ralph was the patriarch of our church. He was an outstanding leader who took us through discernment with civil behavior throughout. He was a fighter for what was right and had a great sense of what to do when. He was an outstanding SS teacher who I learned from. He made a difference in the lives of many children with his children’s sermons. He gave them all money one year to challenge them with doing good with it. The results were incredible. He was a true southern gentleman. He was a great communicator. He was proud to have served his country. And his Savior. I will never forget him. I know he is in Heaven. He will be missed at Memorial. And in Greer. Virtual hugs to all the family.

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**Don Louis** - February 28, 2024 at 07:19 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Ralph W. Johnson III.



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February 28, 2024 at 05:30 PM