



Johnnie Earnest Manuel

January 27, 1941 - February 24, 2026

The staff at Heishman Funeral Home, Inc. send condolences to the family of Johnnie Earnest Manuel.

Johnnie Ernest Manuel, of Woodstock, Virginia, passed away on February 24th, 2026. He was a devoted husband, father, coach, mentor, public servant, and friend whose life was defined by generosity, service, and deep love for his community.

Born in Broad Run, Virginia, Johnnie spent his youth running the hills and getting into good-natured mischief with his older siblings Kenny and Sis. Those early years shaped the grit, independence, and quiet humor that would define him for the rest of his life.

He dedicated nearly 40 years of faithful service to Virginia Power, where he built not only a career but lifelong friendships. Johnnie believed in hard work, showing up, and doing the job right — values he carried into every part of his life.

He served his community for many years in different capacities; a planning commissioner, a town council member and later as Vice Mayor — or, as he liked to joke, the “Mayor of Vice.” A devoted man of faith, he also served on the church council at Emanuel Lutheran Church several times.

A true builder in every sense of the word, Johnnie owned every tool imaginable and rarely met a problem he couldn't fix. If something was broken — in a home, on a field, or in someone's spirit — he showed up. He gave his time, strength, and steady presence without hesitation.

He founded the Shenandoah County Soccer League and worked tirelessly to bring baseball and soccer to Central High School, creating opportunities for countless children to learn teamwork, discipline, and joy. He coached both soccer and baseball for many years, pouring his heart into every practice and game. To his players, he was more than a coach — he was a steady mentor who believed in bringing out the best in others.

In recent months, as his health declined, Johnnie E faced each day with the same steadiness that marked his life. He had no regrets, and with quiet confidence, he would say, "I will see you again."

Those who knew him best knew this: he consistently put the needs of others above his own. He had a heart of gold — quiet in its goodness but unwavering in its loyalty. His greatest pride was his family, and his greatest legacy is the lives he shaped through love and service.

He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Linda; his children, Brent (Kasey), Scott (Raquel), and Trish; and his beloved grandchildren, Zachary, Ashby, Christian, Jack, Cameron, Mary Rose, Kiki, Luther, and Vivian.

A Celebration of Life will be held at Emanuel Lutheran Church in Woodstock, Virginia, on Saturday, February 28th, at 11:00 a.m. There will be a luncheon following the service.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to Emanuel

Lutheran Church or the Shenandoah County Soccer League.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

FEB **28**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Emanuel Lutheran Church
127 E High St
Woodstock, VA 22664-1732
(540) 459-3837

Tribute Wall

PB

“ So sorry for your loss. Prayers for Lynn and family. Peggy & Terry Ballowe

Peggy Ballowe - February 26 at 05:59 PM

MC

“ My sincere condolences to the family. He was a wonderful person!

Mary Campbell - February 26 at 03:03 PM

CA

“ Linda im so sorry to hear about Johnnie my thoughts are with you, please call me if you can at 540 335-1691

Cathy - February 26 at 01:52 PM

CH

“ John was always an inspiration to me as he started the soccer league and brought it to Central High School. Our son was one of the first players on the traveling team and when the team started at Central. He had deep respect for his coaches and for John. John and Linda are a true example of love and service and continue to inspire many around them. Our prayer are with you and your family during this time. His positive attitude, kindness, humor, and love can be seen in his children and grandchildren. Carol and Larry Henry

Carol Henry - February 26 at 01:18 PM

JG

“ My sincere condolences to John's family. He was such a sweetheart and his friends at Valley Treasures will surely miss him.

Joyce Good - February 26 at 10:57 AM

DL

“ He was a great friend and will greatly be missed. Prayers for his family.

Danny Lambert - February 26 at 09:13 AM



“ Enduring Grace was purchased for the family of Johnnie Earnest Manuel.



February 26 at 07:40 AM

LB

“ My deepest condolences to the entire family of Johnnie E, who addressed me as the man with two first names. He was indeed proud of his soccer contributions , along with his other talents, his calm defined him. May he rest in the peaceful embrace of our Lord.

Leon Bernard - February 26 at 07:19 AM

KB

“ To the MAUNEL.FAMILY! MAY JOHNNIE REST IN PEACE
Just a good friend and soccer coach to my boys in their younger years . MayGOD GIVE YOU COMFORT I. THIS DIFFCULT TIME

Karen Burne4 - February 25 at 07:36 PM

ST

“ *Sheila Trelawny lit a candle in memory of
Johnnie Manuel*



Sheila Trelawny - February 25 at 05:54 PM