



Theodore William Johnson

June 13, 1944 - December 16, 2024

Theodore William Johnson, age 80, passed away peacefully with his beloved dog, Elijah, by his side. Born on June 13, 1944, to Rev. Theodore Titus Johnson and Carol Livingston Baldwin Johnson. Ted dedicated his life to faith, family, and community.

Ted's lifelong love of music brought him immense joy and fulfillment. A talented musician, he played multiple brass instruments, keyboards, and sang with great passion and energy. Before his illness, he was an active member of choral groups in Washington, DC, and the Alexandria Choral Society in Alexandria, VA. These experiences were especially meaningful to him, as he cherished not only the music but also the sense of community and camaraderie they provided. Ted's lifelong love of music brought him immense joy and fulfillment.

Ted was also deeply committed to political activism and advocacy during the Vietnam War era and the Civil Rights Movement, particularly in the late 1960s and 1970s. He believed passionately in justice and equality, using his voice and actions to support causes that shaped his generation. Ted's love of writing and speaking endured throughout his life, as he sought to connect, inspire, and uplift those around him through his words.

He is lovingly remembered by his sons, Benjamin R. Johnson (Sisc) and

David T. Johnson (Samantha); his grandchildren, Emelie Douglas (Scott), Kristina Roy (Matthew), SPC Tyler Johnson (U.S. Army), and Nicholas Johnson; and his great-grandchildren, Amelia Grace, Ella Brooke, and Winsley Mara.

He is also survived by his sisters, Elizabeth Baldwin Johnson Fitzpatrick (William) and Ann Titus Johnson Palches (Peter); his nieces and nephew, Amy Elizabeth Fitzpatrick, Kathleen Suzanne Fitzpatrick (Jarel), Patricia Fitzpatrick Sweeny (Matthew), and Jakob Palches; their children, Riley Nicole and Maya Lee; and the mother of his sons and first wife, Karen Kuss Johnson.

Ted is also lovingly remembered by his life partner, Jane "Maggie" Lawson, with whom he shared a deep bond and many cherished adventures. Together, they found joy in their mutual love of dogs, exploring new places, RVing, and camping-creating a lifetime of memories filled with companionship, laughter, and a shared appreciation for life's simple pleasures.

Dr. Johnson was a devoted congregation developer, serving for over 30 years as an Episcopal priest. Specializing in interim ministry, he guided congregations through times of transition with wisdom, compassion, and steadfast leadership. As a trusted consultant and coach, he strengthened both leaders and communities within the Episcopal Church.

Ted earned his Master of Divinity degree from Virginia Theological Seminary and his Doctor of Ministry degree in Congregational Development from Seabury-Western Theological Seminary. He also studied the Bible at Union Theological Seminary, attended The New School for Social Research, and Franklin & Marshall College. A graduate of Pottsville Area High School, Pottsville, PA, Ted was a lifelong learner who valued education and personal growth.

His legacy of faith, leadership, advocacy, music, and love will live on in all who knew him.

The family will honor Ted's life with a service and celebration of his life at Shrine Mont in Orkney Springs, Virginia, in late spring of 2025. Shrine Mont held a special place in Ted's heart, serving as a sanctuary of peace, reflection, and cherished memories shared with those he loved. It is only fitting to gather in this meaningful place to celebrate the enduring impact of his life.

The family warmly invites all who knew and loved Ted to join them in this tribute to his remarkable legacy. A Memorial Service will be on June 13, 2025, at 11:00 A.M. at Shrine Mont Memorial Gardens 217 Shrine Mont Circle, Orkney Springs, Virginia. The Very Reverend Kathleen Murray will officiate. For room reservations, please contact Shrine Mont directly, 540-856-2141. Cottages and rooms are available for out-of-town guests or those wishing to stay overnight.

Lunch will be served immediately following the service. Please RSVP by June 1, 2025, including dietary restrictions and the number of guests in your party.

In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to Shrine Mont or The Washington National Cathedral.

Tribute Wall

SJ

“ *The Reverend Dr. Theodore William Johnson Memorial Service and Interment June 13, 2025, at 11:00 AM Officiant, The Very Reverend Kathleen Murray Lunch will be served immediately following the service. Please RSVP for Lunch by June 1, 2025. Please include dietary restrictions and the number of guests in your party. RSVP to Sisc (sissy) Johnson siscjo@gmail.com or call or text 703-994-2507 Shrine Mont 217 Shrine Mont Circle Orkney Springs, Virginia 22845, US 540.856.2141 For room reservations, please contact Shrine Mont. They have cottages and rooms available for out-of-town guests or those wanting to stay overnight. In-lieu of flowers, donations to Shrine Mont or National Cathedral are appreciated.*

Sisc Johnson - March 21, 2025 at 12:00 AM

SJ

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Sisc Johnson - March 21, 2025 at 12:00 AM

ST

“ My condolences to Rev. Theodore Johnson’s Family. His work as Priest at St. Luke’s Episcopal Church in Washington, DC will be fondly remembered. I will miss his beautiful photos he shared on FaceBook. Rest in Peace Rev. Johnson.



Sheryl Taylor - December 26, 2024 at 12:00 AM

SJ

“ It’s hard to put into words how much my dad meant to us. He was a source of unwavering love, wisdom, and strength. While our hearts ache in his absence, we’ll carry his memory and his lessons with us every day. Rest easy, Dad—you are so deeply loved and missed.

Sisc Johnson - December 19, 2024 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ What can I say about Ted? He lived in the apartment above ours, and always had his bird feeders out. The squirrels would come down to our balcony and entertain us. I used to bring Ted a plate of food whenever I cooked dinner in my apartment, which wasn’t very often. We had nice conversations and he always asked how I was with a smile. I didn’t see him as much when my daughter moved into the apartment. I want to remember him the way he looks in the photo. That is the Ted I knew.

Katherine Freeman - December 19, 2024 at 12:00 AM