



Mary Johnson

May 9, 1929 - February 28, 2025

Mother Mary Louise Johnson , Age 95, of Orlando, FL, passed away on Friday, February 28, 2025 in Fort Myers, Florida at the home of her daughter and son-in-law, Gail and Robert Lewis.

She was born on May 09, 1929 in Kankakee, Illinois to the union of Mary Francis and Norris Zeke Crossey, Sr. She was the eldest of four children. Siblings, Norris Z. Crossley, Jr., Joan Ballenger and Curtis Crossley.

She was baptized in Jesus name in 1970 at the House of Prayer Apostolic Faith Church #1 in Kankakee, IL by the late Dr. Ella M. Davis. She was a member of the Missionary Board and the Usher Board Auxiliary.

Mary was a graduate of Kankakee High School. Mary enjoyed Home Economics Classes and participating in the Girl Scouts of America.

Mother Johnson was married to the late Robert B. Johnson. She was a loving and devoted mother to six children.

Mother Johnson retired from Shapiro Development Center in Kankakee, Illinois and Macy's Corporation in Orlando, Florida. She was known for her exemplary work ethic, dedication, and service to her community. She was awarded Employee of the Year at the Macy's Corporation for her remarkable

and diligent performance during her employment.

Mary L. Johnson was the eldest mother of her Church, The Sanctuary of Praise Ministries of Orlando, Florida under the Pastorship of Johnathan L. McKnight. She was a Prayer Warrior and Anointed Woman of God. Mother Johnson was known for casting out devils, and her pristine Sanctified Fashion Elegance.

She leaves to cherish in her memory, her children, Alicia J. (Robert) Jones of Shorewood IL, Gaylord J. Gathing of Kankakee, IL, Gail J. (Robert) Lewis of Fort Myers, FL, Jess Cecil (Jan) Gathing, Jr. of Kankakee, IL, Cornell A. Gathing of Sacramento, CA and James W. Johnson of Crestwood, IL; her brother, Curtis Crossley of Kankakee, IL; God daughter, Terry A. Lloyd; grandchildren, Andrea (Michael) Breath, Clifford (Kitta) Martin, Dante Gathing, Gabriel Jordan, Crystal Jordan, Danielle Gathing, Shannon Jordan, Brandon Lewis, Whitney (Norman) Lewis-Goodson, Jessica Gathing, Jaime Gathing, Jeremy (Layla) Gathing and Jason (Ayo) Gathing, and a host of great-grandchildren. She was the favorite Aunt, friend and surrogate mother to many.

Mother Johnson was preceded in death by her parents, Francis and Norris Z. Crossley, Sr.; her siblings, Norris Z. Crossley, Jr. and Joan Ballenger; her children, Veta Livingstone and Samuel Cotton; grandsons, Cornell Allen Gathing, Jr and Denarius Lewis, and God son, Willie Lloyd.

Mother Mary L. Johnson's legacy shall live on in the hearts of all who knew and loved her.

Cemetery Details

Mound Grove Cemetery

1000 N. Greenwood
Kankakee, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 7. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Lax Mortuary
187 S. Greenwood Avenue
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 935-0090
laxmortuary@laxmortuary.com
<http://laxmortuary.com/>

Visitation

MAR 8. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

House of Prayer
1309 E. Court St.
Kankakee, IL

Service

MAR 8. 10:00 AM (CT)

House of Prayer
1309 E. Court St.
Kankakee, IL

Tribute Wall

EL

“ My deepest sympathy to the entire family. Mrs. Johnson who I found myself sometimes calling her “Mother, ” as it was so befitting. She was indeed a beautiful soul and had a kind heart. I worked with her at Shapiro and she was a hard worker. Mrs. Johnson was a sharp dresser, too. I enjoyed being in her company and she will be missed. Take your rest, you good and faithful servant 🌸🙏🙏🙏



Ethel Lee - March 08, 2025 at 09:44 PM

MZ

“ Jesse and Family, Sorry for your loss, you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.



Madonna (Mazzuchi) Zasada - March 08, 2025 at 06:10 AM



“ My condolences to the Johnson & Gathing family! So many precious memories of Mrs Mary

Johnie Dandridge - March 07, 2025 at 10:24 PM

MM

“ Michael & Rita Morris lit a candle in memory of Mary Johnson



Michael & Rita Morris - March 07, 2025 at 08:55 PM

EF

“ *Euell/Boykin Family*



Euell/Boykin Family - March 07, 2025 at 10:44 AM

MG

“ *Sending my sincere sympathy...*



Maria Gwaltney - March 07, 2025 at 09:52 AM

GR

“ *You have my condolences and prayers to the family.* 🙏🙏💖💖



Gwendolyn Rucker-Carr - March 06, 2025 at 11:47 PM

DS

“ *Mrs. Gathing Johnson was our 600 Block of North Greenwood Ave. Neighbor. May she rest in peace.*

*The "Dear" Siblings,
Anthony, Marc, Michael, & Cynthia*



Dear Siblings - March 06, 2025 at 08:54 PM

DJ

“ *NIV: I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do.
John 17:4 May you rest in peace.*

*Cynthia J. Dear-Babatunde
600 block of North Greenwood Neighbor*



Dear, Cynthia J - March 06, 2025 at 08:39 PM

PJ

“ *Patricia Jamison lit a candle in memory of
Mary Johnson*



Patricia Jamison - March 06, 2025 at 08:27 PM

AJ

“ *Annie Johnson lit a candle in memory of Mary
Johnson*



Annie Johnson - March 06, 2025 at 05:07 PM

MC

“ *My family has endured so much death in the last two years, and I am trying to wrap my mind around the reason for so much loss, yet I am grateful for the time we had with our loved ones.*

It is with profound gratitude that I celebrate the life of my incredible Auntie Mary L. Johnson, affectionately known as Aunt Snooki, who blessed us with 96 remarkable years of unconditional love and wisdom.

She was a shining beacon in the community of Kankakee, Illinois, and in The Crossley, Gathings, and Johnson Families, whose love and legacy will forever be cherished and inspire future generations.

Her radiant style, grace, and beauty, inside and out, inspired the younger generation with unconditional love and concern, and her memory will continue to uplift us.

You empowered us to believe in our limitless potential, and I say thank you, Auntie Snooki, for being a beacon of hope and inspiration to our family.

*Love You Always,
Marshonn Calvin*

Marshonn Calvin - March 06, 2025 at 05:01 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mary Johnson.*



March 06, 2025 at 01:43 PM

JF

“ *joann FORD-BOX lit a candle in memory of Mary Johnson*



joann FORD-BOX - March 06, 2025 at 11:44 AM

RM

“ *My sincere condolences to the beautiful families. May Mrs. Mary rest in the arms of the Angels 🙏 Blessings and Prayers to all 🙏*
🌹



Rosetta Mason - March 06, 2025 at 09:02 AM

JE

“ *Julie Enright lit a candle in memory of Mary Johnson*



Julie Enright - March 06, 2025 at 08:23 AM

CW

“ *My Condolences to her family. Sending Prayers. I would go shopping with Mrs. Johnson. She knew all the latest styles. She had excellent style and fashion sense. She loved Fannie Mae Pixies . Take your well deserved rest..*



Cheryl Wilson - March 06, 2025 at 06:46 AM

TW

“ I called you "Mother" thats how much I loved you I'm going to miss you. Mother you taught me so many things, that was useful through out my life. There will never be another like you. Rest on Mother see you later.....



Terry Wilson-Lloyd - March 06, 2025 at 05:21 AM

MB

“ minnie brewer brewster sent a virtual gift in memory of Mary Johnson



minnie brewer brewster - March 05, 2025 at 09:04 PM