



Thomas Henry Johnson

May 2, 2025

Our beloved Thomas Henry Johnson peacefully entered into eternal life on May 2, 2025. Tom was the firstborn of Thomas Henry Johnson Sr. and Ruth Edna (Wilde) Johnson. He was born on December 9, 1943 in New Bedford, MA and grew up in Fairhaven, MA and Lynnfield, MA where he learned to love musical instruments, playing clarinet and saxophone in the Lynnfield High School marching band and throughout his adult life.

Tom attended Chamberlain College and then joined the Army National Guard. He married his wife Ruthie in 1968 and his career in industrial sales took Tom and his family to several midwestern states where he was involved in community activities before moving back east to New Hampshire. Tom continued in the industrial sales business becoming VP of US Sales for a British company and then later created his own business which allowed him more time with his children and grandchildren.

Living in Bedford, NH for 28 years, Tom was President of the Bedford Little League, played in golf and softballs leagues, coached baseball and soccer and was involved in many community groups and Bethany Covenant Church throughout his entire life, Tom was known for his spirit of helping others, mostly unnoticed, opening his home to those in need. He loved his family dearly and loved traveling across the country and beyond with them. His final 17 years were spent in West Hartford, CT where he continued to enjoy his

passion for landscaping and the outdoors and building bonds with his grandchildren.

Tom is survived by his loving family including his beloved wife of 56 years, Ruthie, their son Tommy Johnson and wife Justine of Falmouth, ME and daughter Kirstin and husband Garrett O'Keefe of West Hartford, CT. He was blessed to be known as "Poppy" to five amazing grandchildren: Nat Johnson, Emily O'Keefe, Penelope Johnson, Riley O'Keefe and Katie O'Keefe. In addition, he leaves two sisters and their husbands, Jane (Johnson) and Gary King of Coral Springs, FL and Marilyn (Johnson) and Michael Austin of Somerset, MA and many nieces, nephews and cousins who were all a very important part of his life.

A Celebration of Life for Tom will be held on Wednesday, May 21 at 11am at First Church of Christ Congregational (12 So. Main Street, West Hartford, CT) followed by a military flag presentation.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAY 21. 11:00 AM (ET)

First Church of Christ Congregational
12 South Main Street
West Hartford, CT

Tribute Wall



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Thomas Henry Johnson.*



May 21, 2025 at 07:23 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Thomas Henry Johnson.

May 21, 2025 at 07:23 AM



“ *The Mitchells purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Thomas Henry Johnson.*



The Mitchells - May 20, 2025 at 01:57 PM



“ *The Mitchells planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Thomas Henry Johnson.*

The Mitchells - May 20, 2025 at 01:57 PM



“ *Your Light Shines was purchased for the family of Thomas Henry Johnson.*



May 19, 2025 at 10:51 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Thomas Henry Johnson.

May 19, 2025 at 10:51 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Thomas Henry Johnson.

May 15, 2025 at 11:08 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Thomas Henry Johnson.*



May 15, 2025 at 11:08 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Thomas Henry Johnson.

May 15, 2025 at 11:08 AM

YN

“ *Your Johnson Nieces and Nephews purchased the Serenity Wreath for the family of Thomas Henry Johnson.*



Your Johnson Nieces and Nephews - May 14, 2025 at 03:04 PM

CS

“ *I was blessed to work with Tom and Ruthie's children at Manchester High School West. Both Tommy and Kirsti exhibited great leadership qualities, kindness, and such care for others serving on the Student Council Executive Board of 2000 faculty and staff. They learned so much from their committed parents. This is the Johnson legacy for sure. Love, Mrs.Somma*

Carolyn Somma - May 13, 2025 at 04:21 PM



“ *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Thomas Henry Johnson.*



May 12, 2025 at 11:20 AM

MO

“ How blessed the O’Keefe family has been since Garrett and Kirsti married and Tom and Ruthie became part of our extended family. We have enjoyed so many family times together and Tom has been a wonderful father-in-law to Garrett and a caring and devoted grandfather to his grandchildren. We will miss him.
Margaret O’Keefe

Margaret O’Keefe - May 08, 2025 at 05:16 PM

MA

“ My brother Tom and I were the dentist buddies growing up. We shared many a dental appointment at Dr. Bates office in Lynnfield. He also made me milkshakes when he worked at the soda fountain at Edgewood Pharmacy in Lynnfield. I remember listening to him practice his clarinet and saxophone. He had to babysit for me, and always gave me an Eskimo Pie. We’ll all miss you, Tom. Love Marilyn your younger sister.

Marilyn Johnson Austin - May 08, 2025 at 04:13 PM

RF

Joyce and I have known Tom since 1968 when I was working in Bow, NH. Joyce, Ruthie, Tom and I have shared many memories, places where we have lived close to each other, travel experiences and spending time in Florida during February and March. It was during those spring time visits that Tom got his “spring training” gardening skills honed for the upcoming spring season in West Hartford. Tom inspired us to make gardening a year round endeavor and we thank him for his insights and hands on help. We spent many wonderful years living near Tom in Bedford NH, Acton, MA, and other parts of the country. It’s difficult to summarize what 56 years of friendship means when I think of Tom and Ruthie. May the peace of God be with you. We cherish the time we had together and will miss you. Joyce and Richard Fisher

Richard and Joyce Fisher - May 08, 2025 at 08:43 PM

BB

Ruthie, I am so sad to hear of Tommy's recent death. I knew Tommy, (aka TJ) from Lynnfield High School band and picture him in our old blue and gold band uniforms. It's been wonderful getting to know you and seeing Tommy at our reunions. My thoughts are with you and may our Tommy rest in peace.

beth nireton bell - May 15, 2025 at 11:30 AM