



## Darnell Johnson

January 31, 1951 - November 9, 2017

Darnell Johnson, 66, passed on Thursday, November 9, 2017. He was born in Henderson, N.C. to the late Julius Johnson, Sr. and Winnie Harrison Thornton. He was a member of Third Baptist Church in Portsmouth, VA. He loved the Lord, the Dallas Cowboys, Elizabeth City State University, and his family. Darnell was a dedicated educator, bible-scholar, chaplain of the Portsmouth City Jail and proud member of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, the New Men for Progress, and I. C. Norcom Class of '69. He was in the Portsmouth Public School system for thirty years where he served as a math teacher, assistant principal, community school liaison, assistant band director at Manor High, and as principal of The Alternative School and Churchland Middle School. After retirement, he served at Hampton University as Assistant Dean of Education and at ECSU as Chair of the Math Department and an Endowed professor.

Darnell is survived by his wife Dr. Stephanie Denise Bailey Johnson. Together they had one daughter, Dawn; 3 grandchildren - Faith, Steffi, and Maeah; his siblings, Florence and Bernard, stepmother, Vashti Johnson along with a host of nieces, nephews, and friends.

In lieu of flowers, please contribute to the Johnson and Johnson Scholarship Fund through mail: The ECSU Foundation, Inc., Attn: Johnson and Johnson Scholarship Fund, In memory of Dr. Darnell Johnson, P.O. Box 1467, Elizabeth City, NC 27909 or online: [https://app.mobilecause.com/public/peer\\_fundraisers/393109/peer\\_fundraiser\\_donations/new](https://app.mobilecause.com/public/peer_fundraisers/393109/peer_fundraiser_donations/new).



# Cemetery Details

## Olive Branch Cemetery

2 Cpl J M Williams Ave  
Portsmouth, VA

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV 16. 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

J. T. Fisher Funeral Services Chapel  
1248 N. George Washington Hwy  
Chesapeake, VA

## Wake Service

NOV 16. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

J. T. Fisher Funeral Services Chapel  
1248 N. George Washington Hwy  
Chesapeake, VA

## Service

NOV 17. 11:00 AM (ET)

St Mark Missionary Baptist Church  
2714 Frederick Blvd  
Portsmouth, VA



# Tribute Wall

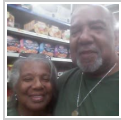


“ *J.T. Fisher Funeral Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Darnell Johnson*



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**J. T. Fisher Funeral Services** - November 16, 2017 at 09:59 PM



*safe IN HIS ARMS.....  
R I H...My Friend.  
HE'S SAID "WELL DONE!"*

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**Ethel Miller** - November 16, 2017 at 10:17 PM

EB

*Dear Stephanie, May the God of all comfort shower you and your family with His love and grace during this tender season and beyond.  
Elois*

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**Elois Butler** - November 17, 2017 at 03:46 PM

JH

*Remembering Mr. Johnson today and Always...He was our Bible study mentor at Zion during 1980's. Always grateful Sir...🙏🙌*

*Jason Harvey*

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**Jason Harvey** - May 30, 2022 at 12:53 PM

DW

“ My overdue condolences to his wife, daughter and family. I am just finding out about Dr. Johnson's passing. He was my Supervisor and dear colleague at Churchland Middle School. I appreciated his professionalism and positive outlook on life. He was an awesome role model for us teachers! I am grateful we crossed paths. He will always be remembered for his high standards and character.



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**Diane Williams** - April 18 at 04:02 PM

JH

“ Jason Harvey lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson



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**Jason Harvey** - May 30, 2022 at 12:55 PM

JH

“ Jason Harvey sent a virtual gift in memory of Darnell Johnson



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**Jason Harvey** - December 28, 2021 at 04:14 PM



“ I wish to extend my condolences to Stephanie and family in the passing of Dr. Johnson. I am so happy to have had the opportunity to work with him at Cradock High in the early 80's. His students loved and respected him. He cared about his students and they knew it. God bless you Stephanie and remember, you and Darnell have truly made our Norcom family proud.

Rosa Davis - November 18, 2017 at 07:51 AM

MS

“ Sending prayers of comfort to the family and close friends of Drs. Darnell and Stephanie Johnson.



Melba Smith - November 17, 2017 at 12:44 PM

VR

“ Vanessa Joyner Richardson lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson



Vanessa Joyner Richardson - November 17, 2017 at 12:31 PM

AL

“ I'm thankful and grateful for Mr. Darnell

Ambassador L.C. Grandison - November 17, 2017 at 11:37 AM

PG

“ *My condolences Ms. Stephanie and to the rest of family. Thank you for allowing him to be a part of the jail, prison ministry which touched so many lives and helped alot of prisoners make it through their incarceration.*

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**POWER INC- LORENZO GRANDISON** - November 17, 2017 at 11:31 AM

NE

“ *Dr. Darnell Johnson, you will be truly missed. My son wanted to come up to speak in your honor last night, but he choked up and couldn't do it in the end. We both love you and will always cherish the word and push that you gave us.*



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**Nyshea S Edwards** - November 17, 2017 at 10:33 AM

LC

“ *I remember Mr. Johnson fondly from my days at Manor High School. He always had a smile and was willing to help students be the best they could be. My sincere sympathy to his family. Rest in Peace.*

*Lisa Clinton  
Manor H.S. - Class of 1984*

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**Lisa Clinton** - November 17, 2017 at 08:25 AM

TT

“ *Troy And Valerie Trotter lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



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**Troy and Valerie Trotter** - November 17, 2017 at 07:45 AM

LM

“ *Lakisha Mundon-Johnson lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



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**Lakisha Mundon-Johnson** - November 17, 2017 at 05:54 AM

PW

“ *Stephanie, I just learned yesterday of Darnell's passing. I'm thankful for the opportunity of meeting the two of you and experiencing Darnell's kindness. Darnell was a great educator and he leaves a legacy of a man who praised God and was always inspirational. It is a blessing to read how he had such a positive impact on the lives of so many. I pray the comfort of God's love for you and your family.*  
*Fondly,*  
*Phyllis T. Wessells*

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**Phyllis T. Wessells** - November 17, 2017 at 01:21 AM

VR

“ *I met Darnell in my summer school math class at I.C. Norcom High. My BFF Dr. Beth Cross Smith and I decided to take geometry during the summer so we could devote more time to our other subjects that following September. Both Darnell and Stephanie were in the class. He was very helpful in helping us to better understand the content. He was a gifted mathematician ! Rest in Heaven Darnell. I pray that God will grant peace and give comfort to Stephanie, Dawn, the grandchildren and other family members.*  
*Vernetia Wilson Robinson,*

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**Vernetia Wilson Robinson** - November 17, 2017 at 12:58 AM

VP

“ *Vicky Porter lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



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**Vicky Porter** - November 16, 2017 at 09:22 PM

CB

“ *May the Lord, the source of all consolation, be comfort to you in your lost. With sympathy and prayers, Joseph and Carolyn Buggs Peninsula Alumni Chapter of ECSU*



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**Carokyn W. Buggs** - November 16, 2017 at 08:14 PM

EB

“ *Dr. Johnson was a wonderful man, one of the nicest I know. I had the pleasure of working with him as a COE student worker when I was a Senior in High School when he served as principal of New Directions. Thank you Dr. Johnson for being a great person and inspiration to many. I will miss your smile. Praying for your lovely wife Dr. Johnson who I had the pleasure of working with at Emily Spong... 2 of the sweetest jewels ever. Praying for your daughter and grand children as well. Love you always. Ebony (Bullock) Hudson*

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**Ebony** - November 16, 2017 at 07:39 PM

DG

“ Stephanie and family, you have my deepest sympathy. You will be remembered in thoughts and prayer. Just keep the memories in her heart.

*Daphne Miller*

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**Daphne Miller, a sister in Greekdom-AKA** - November 16, 2017 at 07:21 PM

SM

“ May the peace and love of God encompass you and your family as you walk through this valley. The Lord is your shepherd, and He will strengthen and keep you. We are praying for you all, and we extend our deepest sympathy to you.

*Love, Shirley and Charlie McGill*

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**Shirley McGill** - November 16, 2017 at 06:59 PM



“ General Dr. Daniel Omega Griffin, USAR/USAFNG is sending spiritual condolences to the families of late Dr. Darnell Johnson who always knows what to say or do to make students in his math class to give it all what his students needed to be able to make it in the career that they pick to do.



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**Omega Griffin** - November 16, 2017 at 06:06 PM

Eunice  
Smith  
Pepper

“ *To Dr. Stephanie Johnson and family,  
Truly, Dr. Johnson has been a blessing to my family and I. While I  
was at ECSU, he was one of the many who looked out for me as if I  
was part of the family. His phone calls, emails, hugs, and words of  
encouragement over the years were always on time. We miss you  
Dr. J. You finished your journey here on this side. Rest in Heaven.  
With Love,  
Eunice Smith Pepper and family*

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**Eunice Smith Pepper** - November 16, 2017 at 06:02 PM



“ *Antoinette Norman lit a candle in memory of  
Darnell Johnson*



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**Antoinette Norman** - November 16, 2017 at 04:59 PM

KB

“ *Please know our thoughts and prayers and  
love are with you and your family.  
Kathy, Peanut and Kevin Bowles*



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**Kathy Bowles** - November 16, 2017 at 02:19 PM

LM

“ *LaVern Morris lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



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**LaVern Morris** - November 16, 2017 at 01:30 PM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with Stephanie and the entire Johnson family. May God comfort and keep you as you mourn the loss but celebrate the life of Dr. Darnell Johnson. ~Bertha, Lisa, and Andre Rogers*

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**Lisa Rogers** - November 16, 2017 at 12:43 PM

BK

“ *My condolences to the family and friend of Darnell, a cherished Teacher and Coach at Cradock High School.*

*May he be remembered for his kindness and may he rest in peace.*

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**Bernie Kirsch** - November 16, 2017 at 11:29 AM

RT

“ *Reshel Turner-Davis lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



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**Reshel Turner-Davis** - November 16, 2017 at 11:00 AM

TF

“ *The Caldwell Family purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Darnell Johnson.*



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**The Caldwell Family** - November 16, 2017 at 10:39 AM

JTF

“ *31 files added to the album Life Tributes*



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**J. T. Fisher Funeral Services** - November 16, 2017 at 10:06 AM

JS

“ *Sending love and prayers. Will miss Darnell's smile at ECSU functions.*

*Your ECSU classmate 1973  
Jean Spruell-Boyd*

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**Jean Spruell-Boyd** - November 16, 2017 at 10:05 AM

LA

“ *First time ever I saw your face was on the campus of Wake Forest University over 20 years ago. It was a beautiful, crisp day that would forever change my life. As I reflect on our moments together, the laughs and long talks on the phone, and your big bear hugs, I'm left numb and speechless as I just learned today of your passing. I prayed we'd have more time (you used to say "time and timing my dear, time and timing"), but all I have left are memories. Sleep well....*

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**LaTonya Mitchell Adams** - November 15, 2017 at 11:54 PM

LP

“ *Doc was a father figure, friend, motivator, but most of all a true man of God. You will truly be missed by me and my girls ( as you would say" we are your young ladies). We are having a hard time with your passing but we know God had other plans. You will be forever missed in our lives but never forgotten. Take your Flight and Rest in the Arms of God. LOVE YOU DEARLY!!!!  
Larnette, Arica, Moesha*



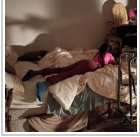
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**Larnette Parsons** - November 15, 2017 at 09:12 PM

HC

“ *Earth's great loss. Heaven's great gain!  
Prayers and love to Stephanie and family.  
Hilda Cassell Cuffee  
ECSU class of '72 and Chesapeake Public  
Schools*



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**Hilda Cassell Cuffee** - November 15, 2017 at 02:41 PM



“ Thank You to a man that made a very significant impact in many people lives, including our own. May you rest in peace.  
*Ruth and Santee Cureton*

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**Ruth Santee Cureton** - November 15, 2017 at 02:41 PM

BT

“ *Bruce&Valarie Taylor lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



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**Bruce&Valarie Taylor** - November 15, 2017 at 02:17 PM

PB

“ *PBLANCO lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



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**PBLANCO** - November 15, 2017 at 01:05 PM

CL

“ *Cassandra Wilkinson Lighty purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Darnell Johnson.*



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**Cassandra Wilkinson Lighty** - November 15, 2017 at 12:59 PM

TA

“ *Mr Johnson was amazing Man , He was the best Teacher , I have ever had , He was my daughters teacher to, He use to call me his daughter and my daughter his granddaughter, He will truly be missed*



*Tammy Stalling class of 1984*

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**tammy** - November 15, 2017 at 11:45 AM

RW

“ *Reginald & Fannie Wiggins lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



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**Reginald & Fannie Wiggins** - November 15, 2017 at 11:11 AM

RF

*A true Life-Coach and family friend. Darnell wanted the best for everyone...a cheerleader for all people. The strong and sincere woman beside Darnell was Stephanie.  
To the Dr. & Dr. Johnsons, we will always love you.*

*Fannie and Reginald Wiggins*

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**Reginald and Fannie** - November 15, 2017 at 11:22 AM

SR

“ To the Johnson Family and my Soror Stephanie, my prayers are with you and your family. Remember God will never leave you, He will always be your Comforter. Ps. 90: 1-2 " Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations. Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and the world; from everlasting to everlasting you are God.”



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**Siste Jessie M. Riddick** - November 14, 2017 at 09:56 PM

WW

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with the Johnson Family. We will truly miss this hard working, talented and compassionate man of God. He never missed an opportunity to say something positive or show an act of kindness to everyone he met. Good night our friend, Brother Darnell !

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**Willie & Patricia Williams** - November 14, 2017 at 08:02 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Darnell Johnson.



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November 14, 2017 at 06:11 PM



“ One of the nicest people I have met since moving to Portsmouth in 1966 to attend I.C. Norcom. We have had some great class and Grand Reunions. The class of 1969 has lost one of our most loved classmates. We will miss your leadership and all the joy that you brought to our meetings and events. You will forever be in our hearts.



Linda Freeman  
Greyhound 1969

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**Lynda Freeman** - November 14, 2017 at 04:13 PM

WT

*Rest in Peace dear Friend, we had some very memorable times as kids growing up. Those were the days to be cherished*

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**William Thornton** - November 15, 2017 at 11:17 AM

DG

*DJ was as close to me as any brother. For 50yrs. he was my friend, spiritual counselor, life coach an Bible Commentator. I love an will miss you til we meet again.*

*Deborah Goodrich  
I C Norcom Greyhound 1970  
ECSU Viking 1974*

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**Deborah Goodrich** - November 15, 2017 at 04:35 PM

LB

“ The memory of this great brother will be cherish by my heart for the the rest of my cognitive years. Can't imagine how life would have been without his presence.



*Lee E. Bond, Jr.*

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**Lee Bond** - November 14, 2017 at 03:45 PM

BJ

“ *Brian A. Johnson lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



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**Brian A. Johnson** - November 14, 2017 at 03:42 PM

LJ

“ *Linda Rogers Johnson lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



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**Linda Rogers Johnson** - November 14, 2017 at 01:33 PM

LJ

“ *Linda Rogers Johnson lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



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**Linda Rogers Johnson** - November 14, 2017 at 01:21 PM

LR

“ *LaVerne Rogers lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



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**LaVerne Rogers** - November 14, 2017 at 01:06 PM

AL

“ *Angela Wilson, Lead/Bookkeeper lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



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**Angela Wilson, Lead/Bookkeeper** - November 14, 2017 at 12:56 PM

AL

*Sending my condolences to the family of Darnell Johnson.*

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**Angela Wilson, Lead/Bookkeeper** - November 14, 2017 at 12:59 PM

KB

“ *Kimberly Britton lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



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**Kimberly Britton** - November 14, 2017 at 12:47 PM

LS

“ Dr. Darnell Johnson was a true opportunity maker who brought his highest talents and gifts to all who had an opportunity to be in his presence.

*I've seen first-hand that he is a person who refused to be judgmental, ridiculing or disdainful; but was committed to being compassionate and loving.*

*Dr. Johnson made the largest positive difference in the world. He faced his humanity and regardless of the behaviors presented by others, Dr. Johnson always showed love for the essence of who they were. He demonstrated daily that we are all much more similar than we are different.*

*Dr. Johnson demonstrated love, compassion, forgiveness, tolerance, acceptance and peacefully and lovingly made a major impact upon each individual he met. All you had to do was be in his presence and watch how he operated and how he spoke and behaved, the words he choose, and the tone of voice he use. He brought consciousness to a more loving, forgiving, and compassionate level which shifted the lives of those he met and because of his demeanor*

*He has made a major impact in his work, in his community. All who have had an opportunity to know him did grow exponentially and he showed that by being positive, kind and caring that You'll have access to a greater power to create amazing positive opportunities and outcomes in all the lives of those you should meet.*

*I feel so cheated that I was not at Lakeview when you were there a couple of weeks ago to assist the administrators; however everyone there was so very much appreciative of your presence; however, I thank you for being my friend and I pray that if I can be half the person that you have been then I will feel highly blessed.*

*I will consciously work harder to be that kind,compassionate, embracing, caring person that you have demonstrated to continue to bring a positive light to all I meet.. Darnell you have lived the song... “THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE, I'M GOING TO LET IT SHINE.”*

*Rest my friend God has you.*

*My sincere condolences to Stephanie and the Johnson Family may*

*God Continue to Bless you and give you Peace and Comfort during this time. 🙏🙏🙏*

**Leah Drake Stith** - November 14, 2017 at 12:04 PM

  
Sherlene  
Carter

“ *Sherlene Carter lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



**Sherlene Carter** - November 14, 2017 at 11:15 AM

  
Sherlene  
Carter

*Darnell you will truly be missed. you was always happy and had a beautiful smile. We are forever friends that only you, Wilbur, and I can understand. One of my favorite classmates for 50 years. Rest on my brother and may the grace of God be Upon Stephanie and family. Weeping may endure for the night but joy comes in the morning. Love to the Johnson Family. The class of 68 Norcom*

**Sherlene Carter** - November 14, 2017 at 11:21 AM

MH

*I met Dr. Johnson my first year at ECSU and how proud he was to know that he was my homeboy, always encouraging to do our best on the field as well in the classroom. I will miss our talks during homecoming, asking question about family and just your well being, this in one Viking I will miss. Rest my brother, Mike Hill (Oscar Smith High school).*

**Mike Hill** - November 15, 2017 at 07:25 AM

FM

“ Remembering Dr. Johnson!

-Felicia Parson Manley



Felicia Parson Manley - November 14, 2017 at 10:31 AM

A1

“ Adrienne Joyner Manor High Class Of 1984 lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson



Adrienne Joyner Manor High Class of 1984 - November 14, 2017 at 06:48 AM

AB

“ Andrea Brooks lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson



Andrea Brooks - November 13, 2017 at 10:40 PM



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



November 13, 2017 at 08:48 PM

FM

“ *Felicia Parson Manley*



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**Felicia Parson Manley** - November 13, 2017 at 08:31 PM

FM

“ *Upon graduating from college, I started my career as a teacher. Dr. Johnson was my Principal. I'm sadden to hear the news of his passing but God knew best. Rest on Dr. Johnson, you will be missed. Sending my condolences to his wife and family.*

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**Felicia Parson Manley** - November 13, 2017 at 08:30 PM

RW

“ *If schools today had teachers, coaches, and mentors like Dr. Johnson/Coach Johnson/and Mr. Johnson, things would be a lot different. I never had him for a class but he knew who I was by name. And years after finishing school and progressing through life, he never forgot my name. We had some very long talks about ministering in the jails. Rev. Dr. Johnson loved making a difference in the lives of others. I'll never forget the couple's retreat we spent with his church. I still have my letter.....to God be the glory. Rest in Heaven Dr. Johnson.*



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**Reginald Williams** - November 13, 2017 at 08:19 PM

AC

“ *Dr. Johnson has always been a light and encouragement to my mom Judith Clayton. I can't believe the news from my friend. He was such a bright spirit and strong educator.*

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**Alisha Clayton** - November 13, 2017 at 07:46 PM

JM

“ *Janice Martin lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



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**Janice Martin** - November 13, 2017 at 05:41 PM



“ *Sapphire Skies Bouquet was purchased for the family of Darnell Johnson.*



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November 13, 2017 at 05:27 PM



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



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November 13, 2017 at 05:18 PM

JA

“ *Darnell was a beautiful "personality". I feel he went too soon but who knows what God plans. I know he had a lot more to offer here on earth. I look forward to memorializing Darnell on December 2, 2017 at the I. C. Norcom Hall of Fame event. May you rest in peace.*  
*James "Dog-Q" Askew*



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**James Askew** - November 13, 2017 at 04:47 PM

VS

“ I was so looking forward to seeing Darnell at the Hall of Fame event next month. My last memory of Darnell was at the last Class of 68 reunion. I remember trying to hide as Darnell was trying to take a picture of me. In the end, he got me anyway when I was not looking. Darnell had such a warm and pleasant personality. Darnell may you rest in peace. Stephanie - death will leave a heartache no one can heal; love leaves a memory no one can steal; my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.  
Valarie Smith



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**Valarie Smith** - November 13, 2017 at 04:36 PM

AG

*Dr Johnson was a very exception teacher. He taught me at Cradock High School. He cared about all his students. His affirmed leadership skills will never be forgotten. He was a wonderful individual. He is gone too soon. But "GOD" needed a phenomenal warier. He was his chosen one. Dr. Johnson will never be forgotten. His smile will always be remembered by all who came in contact with. Angela Goode.*

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**Angela Goode** - November 13, 2017 at 07:00 PM

DO

“ Rest In Peace dear fellow classmate. May God be the lifter for Stephanie and the rest of your family.  
Dorothy Murrell Oliver

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**Dorothy Murrell Oliver** - November 13, 2017 at 04:00 PM

JD

“ *JANICE U. DAVIS lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



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**JANICE U. DAVIS** - November 13, 2017 at 02:46 PM

TP

“ *Tony And Karla Potts lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



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**Tony and Karla Potts** - November 13, 2017 at 12:12 PM

RR

“ *Dr. Darnell Johnson was a friend and neighbor. As we reflect on all of the special times in our lives for the past 20 plus years, Darnell was there. He loved God and His people. He was always willing for help and share his wisdom with our family. Our sincere thoughts & prayers are for Stephanie, Dawn, his talented & amazing granddaughters, & other family members. We will miss his contagious smile; but we are so grateful for God allowing us to have known such a Dear Man. John, Ramona, Dianna, & Alisha Ransom*

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**Ramona S. Ransom** - November 13, 2017 at 11:12 AM

FS

*Great man...will be missed my condolences to family*

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**Frank Smith** - November 13, 2017 at 11:21 AM

EC

*An awesome instructor who genuinely loved God and the Word of God. Thanks God for the Word Dr Johnson poured into me and helped me to understand. God is with you Johnson family.*

**Edna Clifton** - November 13, 2017 at 03:13 PM

TC

“*His presence and standards at Cradock High was outstanding!!, especially for me a young freshman and all the athletes/students at CHS . He was my mentor , my dad, my coach and my friend. We share so many stories and teaching moments as a grew into a man. He and Mr. William Gibson was my heart and soul from Cradock to Manor High School! He was also my supervisor for the City of Portsmouth when I was a lifeguard for Cavalier Manor and Neighborhood Pools. We were in the same Sunday School Class at Third Baptist Church. He has been a part of my Life since I was 14 years old. A true man of GOD!! HE will be truly missed from church, his community, PPS/ ECSU Family and students that he touch along the way!! "The lord is my shepherd I shall not want" He is with our savior now and he is in good hands. To his family and Stephanie, May GOD continue bless you during this time of bereavement.*



*Tony E. Colden, Sr. Cradock Class of 1976*

**Tony Colden** - November 13, 2017 at 10:53 AM

EH

“ Darnell you have been truly a friend. You always greeted everyone with a smile. I will never forget you my friend and fellow classmate. Your hard work and dedication has paid off for so many. The Norcom class of 1969 has lost a very good classmate. Rest in heaven my friend and always know that the class of 1969 love and memory of you will linger forever.



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**Ethelyn Whitehead Holley** - November 13, 2017 at 10:07 AM

CC

“ Charlene And Michael Cheeks lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson



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**Charlene and Michael Cheeks** - November 13, 2017 at 08:10 AM

CC

“ i remember Coach Johnson going on every band trip as a chaperone with Mr. Bill Gibson. i miss both of them. RIH .

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**Charlene and Michael Cheeks** - November 13, 2017 at 08:09 AM

VH

“ Vanessa Harris lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson



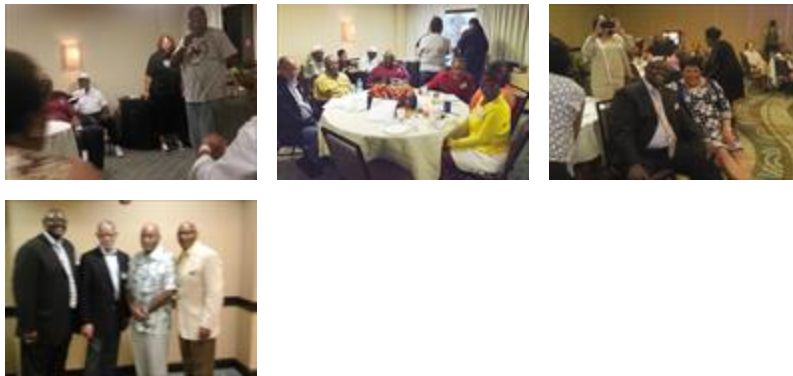
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**Vanessa Harris** - November 13, 2017 at 08:05 AM

CL

“ I will always take pleasure in the fact that some fifty years ago, I initiated and supported the relationship between Darnell and Stephanie! These two proved to be a match made in a heaven and I was overjoyed to find that relationship remained solid as a rock. Darnell I will miss knowing that when I do come home to Portsmouth your smile will not be there to greet me. You were always the same and that warmth and sincerity was special to you! Gone too soon! Rest in Peace my friend in GOD's hands!

*Sharing photos I took during my 2015 Class Reunion ....happy happy memories!*



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**Cassandra Wilkinson Lighty** - November 13, 2017 at 04:05 AM

CL

“ *Cassandra Wilkinson Lighty lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



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**Cassandra Wilkinson Lighty** - November 13, 2017 at 03:34 AM

BC

“ *Condolences and prayers to the family.*

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**Barbara Cross** - November 12, 2017 at 10:18 PM

MC

“ *Michael & Gail Cuthbertson lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



Michael & Gail Cuthbertson - November 12, 2017 at 09:16 PM

DC

“ *Danny Covey lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



Danny Covey - November 12, 2017 at 08:46 PM

BD

“ *Brenda Davis lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



Brenda Davis - November 12, 2017 at 08:04 PM

JA

“ *Jacqueline Amponduro lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



Jacqueline Amponduro - November 12, 2017 at 07:46 PM

VG

“ Valerie Godwin sent a virtual gift in memory of Darnell Johnson



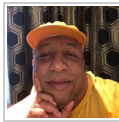
Valerie Godwin - November 12, 2017 at 04:39 PM



“ Gordon Jones lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson



Gordon Jones - November 12, 2017 at 04:15 PM



*Rest in the bosom of our Lord and Savior Darnell. My friends Stephanie and Dawn, you are in my thoughts and prayers. Keep looking up because God is looking down on you.*

Gordon Jones - November 12, 2017 at 04:16 PM

RC

“ Renita Cherry-Thomas lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson



Renita Cherry-Thomas - November 12, 2017 at 01:23 PM

RW

“ Coach Johnson wow what a great man what a great teacher what a great coach what a great mentor and what a great servant of God ! Coach Johnson was a giant of a man in heart strength stamina and inspiration ! He was always there at every event and at everyone's needs !!! He was an inspiration to all men and women races in ages ! Coach J you will be missed by many ! I'll see you again one day my friend and may God bless your wonderful family 🌈✍️ Rest peacefully my friend 😞



Ronald Wood - November 12, 2017 at 01:09 PM



“ I will forever miss that wonderful smile and great big bear hug Dr. Johnson would greet me with whenever I saw him. You will forever be missed.  
Michelle Bryant



Michelle Bryant - November 12, 2017 at 11:46 AM

CE

“ Charles & Jeanette H. Evans lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson



Charles & Jeanette H. Evans - November 12, 2017 at 11:45 AM

MT

“ *Martha Faulk Trotman lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



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**Martha Faulk Trotman** - November 12, 2017 at 10:00 AM

FL

“ *you will be missed condolences to the family, Great admiration for Coach Johnson warmly Frankie Layne*



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**Frankie Layne** - November 12, 2017 at 09:25 AM

JN

“ *Jaye Nunamaker lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



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**jaye nunamaker** - November 12, 2017 at 08:43 AM

JN

“ *so sorry to hear of his passing, he was a great man & coach.*

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**jaye nunamaker** - November 12, 2017 at 08:41 AM

WD

“ *The family of Lonnie Ruffin expresses our deepest heartfelt sympathies to the Johnson family. Dr. Johnson supported us last week during the loss of my dad. He was a wonderful man who made a difference in so many lives. I pray for comfort and peace for his family.*

*In peace and love - Wanda Daughtry*

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**Wanda Daughtry** - November 12, 2017 at 08:14 AM

VB

“ *So sorry to hear of your loss Stephanie 🥺*



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**Verna Walton Bowden** - November 12, 2017 at 07:44 AM

BH

“ *Benita Hopkins lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



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**Benita Hopkins** - November 12, 2017 at 01:48 AM

DI

“ *Dr. Gale Isaacs lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



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**Dr. Gale Isaacs** - November 12, 2017 at 12:02 AM

GI

“ Darnell was my hall mate at ECSU. His infectious laughter and good guy persona made us fast friends; I am truly saddened to learn of his untimely death and offer my heartfelt sympathy to his family and close friends.

*Dr. Gale Isaacs*

**gale isaacs** - November 12, 2017 at 12:01 AM

ML

“ Marion Lee lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson



**Marion Lee** - November 11, 2017 at 11:14 PM



“ Andrew Raspberry lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson



**Andrew Raspberry** - November 11, 2017 at 10:00 PM

SM

“ Sylvia Mason lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson



**Sylvia Mason** - November 11, 2017 at 09:52 PM

SM

*I was saddened to hear of the passing of my former colleague. My sincere sympathy and prayers go out to his family in this difficult period.*

**Sylvia Mason** - November 11, 2017 at 09:55 PM

KE

“ *Karen Ellis lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



**Karen Ellis** - November 11, 2017 at 08:35 PM

DB

“ *We will Miss Dr. Johnson dearly. We send our condolences to the Johnson family. We love you.*



**Dana Bassett** - November 11, 2017 at 08:05 PM

FJ

“ *Frances L Johnson lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



**Frances L Johnson** - November 11, 2017 at 07:50 PM

RJ

“ *Ruby Jordan lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



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**Ruby Jordan** - November 11, 2017 at 06:04 PM

SM

“ *Shirley Morris lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



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**Shirley Morris** - November 11, 2017 at 05:55 PM

MP

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



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**Michelle Key Parker** - November 11, 2017 at 05:47 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Darnell Johnson.*



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November 11, 2017 at 04:40 PM

WD

“ On behalf of Lonnie Ruffin’s family our deepest and most heartfelt sympathies go out to the Johnson family. He just supported us last week during my dad’s homegoing services. He was a great man and was well loved by so many. “And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.” Revelation 21:4 NKJV



*Wanda Daughtry and family*

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**Wanda Daughtry** - November 11, 2017 at 04:38 PM

AJ

“ Stephanie & family,  
My thoughts of love & healing go out to you. Please know that God has you in His loving care & will comfort you as only He can. I first met Darnell at First Baptist Church Elm Avenue with Rev Jenkins as pastor. He always remained the same with his infectious smile & laughter. Our lives have been enriched to have known such a good & caring person as Darnell. He finished his race and God called him home to receive his crown of reward and eternal rest. May the love of God strengthen & keep you.



*Be Blessed,  
Albertha Johnson & Family*

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**Albertha Johnson** - November 11, 2017 at 03:09 PM

MS

“ *Maria Smith lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



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**Maria Smith** - November 11, 2017 at 03:03 PM



“ *Albert Hawkins lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



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**Albert Hawkins** - November 11, 2017 at 02:21 PM

MJ

“ *Mae Jones sent a virtual gift in memory of Darnell Johnson*



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**Mae Jones** - November 11, 2017 at 01:54 PM

WJ

“ *Willie Mae Jones lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



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**Willie Mae Jones** - November 11, 2017 at 01:52 PM

VH

“ *Darnell and Stephanie have been our neighbors for 26 years, he always had a smile and rescued my husband from the side of the road after an accident. Im going to miss the chats when he was doing yard work, it just won't be the same without him. A better man would be hard to find. Sending prayers for his family*

**Vivian Honeycutt** - November 11, 2017 at 01:17 PM

AJ

“ *Albertha Johnson lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



**Albertha Johnson** - November 11, 2017 at 01:15 PM

BB

“ *Brother Darnell, a man of all seasons! What an inspirational man of God. He lived the life of a mentor without the title. Prayers for Dr. Stephanie Johnson and family.*

**Bill Barnes** - November 11, 2017 at 01:08 PM

WC

“ *Wanda Craig lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



**Wanda Craig** - November 11, 2017 at 01:03 PM

HT

“ *Helen Taylor lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



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**Helen Taylor** - November 11, 2017 at 12:40 PM

RW

“ *Darnell was a blessing to all that came in contact with his smile and caring personality. He and Stephanie personified "til death due us part". A union we all benefited from.*



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**Robert Williams** - November 11, 2017 at 11:50 AM

 Keitha Whitley

“ *Peace and Blessings to the family. Our prayers are with the family as Dr. Johnson moves onto his next great journey.*



*Alumnus,*

*Denise C. Whitley c/o 91*

*And*

*Elise B. Smith c/o 62*

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**Keitha Whitley** - November 11, 2017 at 11:37 AM

WJ

“ To Stephanie and the family: My thoughts and prayers are with you. Darnell was well loved . He will be missed. When my dad passed, Darnell was right there for us, my dad loved him and he loved my dad. Darnell and Wilbert were like sons to my dad. He was a very good person and he loved the Lord. RIP Darnell. May God continue to bless you Stephanie and your family. Sorry I am not able to be there. God loves you and I do too.

Mae  
Spartanburg, S.C.

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**Willie Mae Jones** - November 11, 2017 at 11:34 AM

TD

“ Coach Johnson was the reason I attended Elizabeth City State University. He personally drove me and another classmate to the campus to try out for the basketball team. His kindness, encouragement and support will never be forgotten. Rest well Coach...



Tamara (Wright) Davis

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**Tamara Davis** - November 11, 2017 at 11:29 AM

MB

“ Initiated me into the greatest Fraternity in the land! Thank you for your advice, wisdom, and inspiration to keep serving our children!

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**Melvin Brown** - November 11, 2017 at 09:55 AM

EA

“ *Ella M. Ivory, ECSU Alumna lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



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**Ella M. Ivory, ECSU Alumna** - November 11, 2017 at 09:22 AM

PW

“ *Phyllis E. Williams???? lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



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**Phyllis E. Williams????** - November 11, 2017 at 09:16 AM

HS

“ *Played Football with Darnell at ECSU where we first met. A great human-being. soft spoken and always having encouraging words for you. GOD has chosen one of his servants for his glory. RIP Darnell, I know you will be missed. Harold Smith Sr. AKA Bulldog.*

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**Harold Smith Sr** - November 11, 2017 at 09:12 AM

DN

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with the Johnson family today and in the days to come. I have so many fond memories of Dr. Darnell I can only summarize them here. He was a very close family friend for as long as I can remember. Knowing him since I was a young child I can confidently say that he had a sincere genuine concern for his those he knew and loved. I always looked forward to seeing him at our family functions because he nevered waivered and always brought that pleasing personality to every occassion. I believe his radiant signature smile reflected how much of God's love and kindness he had within. He will be sorely, and deeply missed. Rest in heaven. You good and faithful servant. Dr. Robin Crump Nottingham & family

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**Dr. C. Robin Nottingham** - November 11, 2017 at 08:41 AM

LH

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



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**Linda Hayden** - November 11, 2017 at 07:38 AM

LH

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



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**Linda Hayden** - November 11, 2017 at 07:37 AM

LH

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



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**Linda Hayden** - November 11, 2017 at 07:36 AM

LH

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



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**Linda Hayden** - November 11, 2017 at 07:36 AM

LH

“ 1 file added to the album *Dr. Darnell Johnson*



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**Linda Hayden** - November 11, 2017 at 07:34 AM

LH

“ 1 file added to the album Dr. Darnell Johnson



Linda Hayden - November 11, 2017 at 07:32 AM

SN

“ Mr. Johnson was such a caring person always with a smile on his face and a kind word. Truly was a mentor to our young men and will definitely be missed. Rest in Heaven Mr. Johnson. Blessings to the family.

sandra nicholson - November 11, 2017 at 06:54 AM

RJ

“ Roosevelt & Fermina Teal Jr. lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson



Roosevelt & Fermina Teal Jr. - November 11, 2017 at 06:48 AM



“ Charlotte Duke Jordan and Family



Mrz Jordan - November 11, 2017 at 05:33 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Darnell Johnson.*



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November 10, 2017 at 11:32 PM



“ *Gloria Freeman Wheeler lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



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**Gloria Freeman Wheeler** - November 10, 2017 at 09:55 PM



“ *Angela Blount lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson*



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**Angela Blount** - November 10, 2017 at 09:00 PM



“ *I will forever remember Darnell and the impact he had on my life. One of my fondest memories was hearing him sing His Eye Is On The Sparrow. A wonderful man with a big smile and an even bigger heart. Rest in Peace Darnell.*

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**Angela Blount** - November 10, 2017 at 08:58 PM

JK

“ *To the Family,  
May the concern and sympathy of those who care, help you through  
this difficult time.  
And may God continue to bless you and your family.*

*James & Beverly King*

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**James & Beverly King** - November 10, 2017 at 08:25 PM

RP

“ *Dr. Johnson was a great friend, mentor, listening ear and father  
figure to so many. He will surely be missed. ECSU has lost a  
valuable educator. Dr. Stephanie Johnson , you and your family  
have my deepest sympathy.*

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**Regina Price** - November 10, 2017 at 08:21 PM

RD

“ A great man has gone on to his reward. Coach Darnell Johnson was my football coach at Cradock High School. I loved Coach Johnson and considered him a great friend. And what an honor it was for me this summer at my 40 year high school reunion when he chose to sit next to me. I will treasure that memory even more now. He and I shared the bond of our love for Jesus Christ and that made us so close and every time we got together, it was like family. I know for a fact he is up there now with Jesus and celebrating. I know his family is mourning. So I offer condolences and prayers to them for comfort and peace. I am happy for him he is now in his eternal reward for a job well done. Happy trails Coach Johnson and thanks for all you taught me, you were a good man! Rocky



Rocky DeLauri - November 10, 2017 at 08:17 PM

AD

“ Anita Duke lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson



Anita Duke - November 10, 2017 at 05:56 PM

MS

“ Moniqueca McEachin Smith lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson



Moniqueca McEachin Smith - November 10, 2017 at 05:52 PM

BH

“ I am so blessed to have had the opportunity to catch up with Mr. Johnson this past summer when I was in town for my 40th high school class reunion. We sat at the same table and reminisced of my high school years with many of my beloved school mates. Though I never had him as a math teacher, I was so happy when he came to teach at our school. I knew he was a Christian and had married Stephanie from my church, whom I had admired since I was a younger girl. Stephanie, my heart goes out to you and your family. Please know you are all in my thoughts and prayers. Rest in peace Mr. Johnson. You and Mr. Gibson are in heaven and having fun together again. See ya both later!

Lovingly,

*Benita Dean Hopkins and the Dean Family of Zion Baptist Church*

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**Benita Hopkins** - November 10, 2017 at 05:21 PM

JW

“ On behalf of the Rose Avenue families we send to Darnell's family our deepest sympathy. We all met in the 1950s when Rose Avenue was first built and Darnell family moved into the community.. Recently, Darnell, Wilbert and myself (Junius) got together for dinner, since I recently moved back to the Tidewater area. I must say that when I look back I am so glad the three of us did that. Not knowing it would be the last time we met. After dinner before leaving he read I Thessalonians Chapter 4 vs 11 -18. The life long bond the three of us shared will be missed but we know Darnell is just fine. So I hope his family like myself will remember the laughs and find a peace in having had a good man in your presence for as long as you did. Junius Wright and friends of Rose Avenue

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**junius wright** - November 10, 2017 at 02:53 PM

GR

“ Gloria B. Richardson lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson



Gloria B. Richardson - November 10, 2017 at 02:29 PM

CC

“ O my he was one of my favorite teachers. The last time I saw him he and his wife was at the waterfront this summer enjoying the jazz concert. I would see him at anytime mostly at church functions happy occasions. R.I.P Mr.Johnson..

Cynthia Carter - November 10, 2017 at 02:04 PM

LM

“ Too hard to believe! A wonderful caring man. All his students were his students throughout his life. He always kept up with everyone and knew how everyone was doing. He will be dearly missed!!💔



Leslie Mkseberth - November 10, 2017 at 01:37 PM

JW

Rest in peace Mr. Darnell Johnson. Your presence and sense of humor will be truly missed! Especially by your Viking family. Sending hugs and kisses to Mrs. Stephanie and family.

Jackie Wooten - November 11, 2017 at 08:54 AM

AM

*Dr. Darnell Johnson, you were so amazing, yes you. There were so many special things you could do that no one else can touch. Your talents, skills, and thoughts were yours alone. You had an unique approach to the way you put things together, found solutions to problems, and contributed to the well-being of others. My many prayers are with Stephanie, Linda, and the entire family.*

**Annie Wynn Mitchell** - November 13, 2017 at 07:15 PM

LS

“ Leigh Burton, Sr. lit a candle in memory of Darnell Johnson



**Leigh Burton, Sr.** - November 10, 2017 at 12:56 PM

LS

*I have known Darnell since Jr High School. He was always the same when ever i saw him even after years of not seeing each other. i have followed his career across the years.*

**Leigh Burton, Sr.** - November 10, 2017 at 01:02 PM

MR

*We send our heartfelt prayers to the family. Brother Darnell was a man of integrity and honest convictions. May you experience comfort that only The Father can bestow...  
Bro. Michael and Sis. Anita Reid*

**Michael Reid** - November 11, 2017 at 11:19 AM

FS

*To the family of Darnell may God blessing be with you all and keep you strong at this time . Darnell was very good friend and truly find easy going person. He will be missed . R.I.P My friend. Frank Stephens ( Halfback)*

**Frank Stephens** - November 11, 2017 at 10:50 PM

JD

*I have known Stephanie and Darnell since he first asked her "For A Chance" Darnell's works on earth....exemplified his being! My prayers are with Stephanie and the family! I cannot imagine...all I can do is pray!*

**JANICE U. DAVIS** - November 13, 2017 at 02:46 PM

DM

*Stephanie, sending you love and prayers, Debi Mayes*

**Debi Mayes** - November 14, 2017 at 06:41 PM

DW

*To the family, please accept my sincere condolences on the passing of Mr. Johnson. You have lost someone very special, someone who touched many hearts. During your time of bereavement our Heavenly Father invites you to "come to him.....and he will refresh you". (Matt.11:28) He will give the you the strength needed to get through this sad occasion. And as time goes by, may the cherished memories of Mr. Johnson, the support of family and friends help bring you inner peace, soften your grief and live forever in your heart.*

**Denise Williams** - November 16, 2017 at 05:53 AM

CH

*“ I just saw him on Friday and he said hey cuz and gave me a big hug! Always smiling! Rest in heaven, cuz! Prayers to Stephanie and the family! He will truly be missed! Love yall!  
Kay Kay*

**Carlinda Hammonds** - November 10, 2017 at 12:16 PM

PH

*To: Stephanie, Dawn, grandchildren and family : There is only love that I can express at this time. I love all of you and I am so glad and happy for the memories. God has His plans for all of us and Darnell was sent to share how much God loves us. Family  
**BE ENCOURAGED!!!**  
Love Pearlina P. Harmon*

**Pearline P. Harmon** - November 14, 2017 at 11:53 PM

PW

*Stephanie, I just learned today of Darnell's passing. I'm so thankful that I got the opportunity to meet the two of you and experience Darnell's kindness. Darnell was a great educator but he leaves a legacy of a man who always praised God and was always inspirational. It is a blessing to read how he touched the lives of so many people in a positive way. I pray the comfort of God's love for you and your family.*  
*Fondly,*  
*Phyllis T. Wessells*

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**Phyllis Wessells** - November 17, 2017 at 12:40 AM

DT

*To: Stephanie, Dawn and family members. My heart and prayers goes out to you and family members.*  
*Love Deborah Twe(California Girl)*

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**Deborah Twe** - November 17, 2017 at 02:05 AM

NT

*Stephanie, Very sorry to hear of Darnell's passing. Keeping you and your family in my prayers.*

*Nannette C. Turner-Williams*

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**Nannette C. Turner-Williams** - November 22, 2017 at 07:07 PM