



## Hobart Clay Johnson

April 23, 1931 - February 1, 2018

Hobart Clay Johnson, 86 years of age passed away at his home in Virgie, KY on February 1, 2018. He was the son of the late George F. Johnson and the late Vesta Roberts Johnson. He was preceded in death by his wife; Jean Johnson, his brothers; George F. Johnson Jr, Stanley Johnson, Woodrow Johnson and Charles "Big Boy" Johnson, his sisters; Marie Anderson and Irene Spence . He is survived by his sister; Ruby Picklesimer of Lexington, his daughter; Amy Johnson of Pikeville, his son; Benjamin Clay (Jeanie) Johnson of Virgie, his step son; Robert (Vicki) Bell of Robinson Creek and five grandchildren. He was a graduate of Virgie High School, Eastern Kentucky University and the University of Louisville School of Law. He served in the United States Air Force as an agent in the Office of Strategic Intelligence from 1952~1958. Upon his graduation from law school, he returned to Pike County where he began his law practice, a practice which would continue some fifty years. In the early years of his career, he did a yeoman's service, searching real estate titles, assisting the County Attorney and defending moonshiners by Federal Court appointment. His talents came to the attention of the Pike County bar and in the early 1960's he and the late Henry Stratton formed the partnership of Stratton and Johnson. Their firm developed one of the leading practices in the state in the area of workers compensation. Mr. Johnson's skills and outstanding work ethic also recommended him at this same time to John Yost, one of the founders of the Citizens Bank of Pikeville, where he served as general counsel and director for many years. Following in the

footsteps of his grandfather, father, and brother George, he was also significantly involved in the affairs of Pikeville National Bank. In addition he served as a general counsel to the Pike County Board of Education, joined up with Walter May and others in the formation of East Kentucky Broadcasting and pursued numerous other business interests including his involvement in the coal business, owning and operating small mines and processing facilities in Pike, Floyd, and Letcher Counties. In the early eighties he scaled back his engagements in the legal and business world in order to devote more time to his various charitable and philanthropic interests, including his membership on the Board of Directors of Pikeville Medical Center and his personal interests: his golf game, thoroughbred horse racing and breeding and the family home on Hilton Head Island, South Carolina. During this time, he and his wife set about traveling the world and at his death he had set foot upon all seven of the continents. He was an avid student of history a constant reader, an occasional farmer, a bird watcher, a devoted husband, father and grandfather and a singularly honorable man.

His family wishes to express their appreciation to his caregivers, Donna Hernandez and Delesa Johnson for their devotion and loving care over the course of his illness.

Funeral services will be held Sunday at 1:00 PM at the Hall and Jones Funeral Home with Pastor Dave Hammond officiating. Burial will follow in the Johnson Memorial Park Cemetery in Pikeville. Visitation will begin on Saturday at 6:00 PM at the Funeral Home with services beginning at 7:00PM. Pallbearers will be: Justin Bell, Jeremy Bell, Jordan Bell, Harry Sheffield, George F. Johnson III, Laython Newsom.

# Cemetery Details

## Johnson Memorial Park

Pikeville, KY 41501

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 3. 6:00 PM - 11:00 PM (ET)

Hall and Jones Funeral Home  
1101 Hwy 610, P.O. Box 85  
Virgie, KY 41572  
(606) 639-4367  
hallandjones@live.com  
<https://hallandjones.com>

## Service

FEB 4. 1:00 PM (ET)

Hall and Jones Funeral Home  
1101 Hwy 610, P.O. Box 85  
Virgie, KY 41572  
(606) 639-4367  
hallandjones@live.com  
<https://hallandjones.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Hobart Clay Johnson*

October 09, 2023 at 03:57 AM



“ *Hobart Clay Johnson*

January 28, 2023 at 12:16 PM



“ *Gloria Johnson lit a candle in memory of  
Hobart Clay Johnson*



**Gloria Johnson** - February 04, 2018 at 08:07 PM



“ *I JUST WANTED TO SAY I AM SO SORRY TO HEAR ABOUT  
COBB HE SURE WAS A GOOD MAN,WHEN I WORKED FOR HIS  
SISTER IRENE HE ALWAYS TREATED ME WITH RESPECT AND  
KINDNESS,THIS WORLD LOST A PRECIOUS PERSON,REST IN  
PEACE AND KNOW THAT YOU HAD PEOPLE THAT TRULY  
CARED ABOUT YOU,HE ALWAYS TALKED ABOUT HIS FAMILY  
HOW MUCH THEY MEANT TO HIM,WHAT I REMEMBER THE  
MOST ABOUT HIM WAS HE TOOK CARE OF HIS FAMILY MORE  
THAN HE TOOK CARE OF HIMSELF AND HE ALWAYS HAD A  
SMILE ON HIS FACE.*

**Judy Keene** - February 04, 2018 at 03:34 PM

MJ

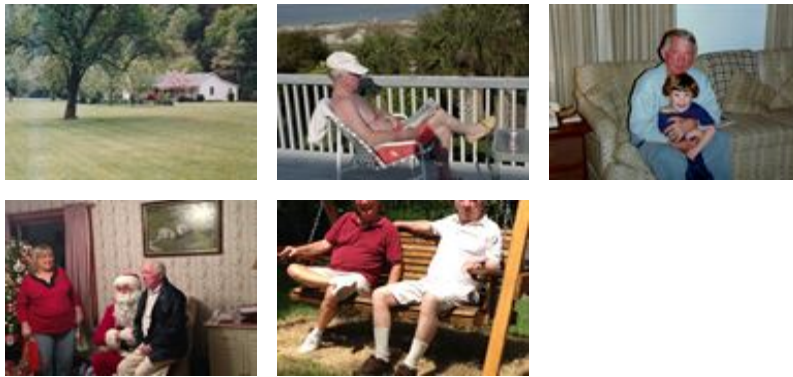
“ Dear Ben and George,  
I am so sorry for the passing of your Father / Grandfather. I regret the loss you will experience in no longer being able to share everyday love, fun, and life with him. Let the memories you shared, the smallest moments of fun, and the pride you have in the wonderful life he lived, fill your mind and heart as you go forward. Much love to you both,  
Molly

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**Molly C Jones** - February 04, 2018 at 09:55 AM

HALL & JONES  
FUNERAL HOME

“ 70 files added to the album Life Tributes



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**Hall and Jones Funeral Home** - February 03, 2018 at 01:53 PM

PH

“ Another good man I worked for gone. I have been blessed to have some of best people

as my boss you were one of best. 10 years and enjoyed those years of friendship with

you , Jean and other family members

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**phyllis Hamilton** - February 03, 2018 at 09:33 AM

DJ

“ I’m so lost for words tonight and I find myself doing my normal routine days and nights every other we shared together 3 and half days a week and from the day I asked God to grant me one wish and that would be able to care for you and all your needs God granted me that one wish and that was in Aug 2017 ... It’s been an honor to you Hobie and Cobb as my names was for you love making you smile and looking out the bay window at the cardinals and our trips to the swing watching those coal trucks go by and you would say them boys are working and the train would go by be music to both our ears cause you knew coal was back up and running and I as well love hearing that train roll on by ... I know we had a bond together as we grew into knowing each other until your final departure from me ... Never left your side and that I promised you and you just amaze me my friend and what a sweet sweet passing peaceful and relaxing and angels I know you seen and how your loving face showed me all I needed to know ... The stories we shared and the ones that i have been told by Ray and you golfing and you guys playing basketball together.... Can’t keep from crying you have made a impact in my life and I just want you to know it’s been a blessing to me over the time spent with you I know you you love me ... I would say I love you Hobie and you would say I love back ... gonna miss you so so so so much .... As I look at my feeders here at home I know in my heart you will be on my feeder watching over me ... I believe that with all my heart and thanks for so many more memories I could go on forever ... I can see you know by the river sitting there and watching the water flow on the rocks and just admiring the awesome view .... soar your wings and fly high your like a father to me and I really respected you and looked up to you for all your good deeds you did for us all the hospital in what it’s become the names on the buildings says it all !!! love love love love you to death and gonna miss you and our night checks and talking to you and comforting you ... But I know this isn’t a good bye cause like I told you yesterday we will meet again ,!!! rest in peace a friend for life is what Hobart Clay Johnson to me .....



Delesa Johnson - February 02, 2018 at 10:36 PM

SD

*Stella will have your piggy bank of our bets on Uk wildcat games !!! Me and Hobie loved watching basketball games I loved Kentucky as will but I would take the other team if I lost You would get that dollar !!!! funny laughters and memories here recently our bets on pagean horse race .... Be like gun runner he ran his final race and now you have ran yours but an angel is what you are and I say without a doubt a powerful and strong angel cause you was and still are to me a strong person inside out !!! Heres a thumbs up job well done ...* 😊😊😊😊😊😊❤️❤️❤️

🏀🏀🏀🏀🏀🏀🏀🏀👏👏👏👏👏

Stella and Delesa - February 02, 2018 at 10:48 PM

CW

“ We shared so much together in 25 years. It hurt to see him in failing health, but I could see in his eyes that he was glad to see me when we visited the last couple of years. When I told him that I has filed for a divorce from Amy, He said, "I hope you're not divorcing me and Granny". I never failed to call and sing happy birthday to him on his birthday. It's funny that in the last few years he couldn't hear me when I was in front of him talking, but when I called to wish him a happy birthday, he always said "Thank you Wilson" and asked how I was doing.

He traveled all over the world and lived life to the fullest, learning something everywhere he went. Going to the British Open was one of the few things on his bucket list that was not done. We talked about it for years and in 2000 we went. We played golf in Scotland, watched The Open in England and stopped for 3 days in Iceland. That wasn't our only trip. We toured the Grand Canyon and the Utah National Parks on one trip. We went to Myrtle Beach to play golf. We went to a few UK football games together. I can't count the number of times we went to Hilton Head. Several times he and Jean went to Hilton Head, and I got a call from one of them the next day asking me to come down. After Jean passed I got him to come to Florida. After one trip, we rented a place for the season and he came down for 2 weeks a month for 9 years. We played lots of golf and took side trips to museums like Ford/Edison. We went to Gulfstream just to see it and play the ponies. We made lots of trips to Sarasota Dog Track to bet the horses. So many memories! I loved him like a father or a brother, and will miss him. Rest in peace Johnson.

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**Chuck Wilson** - February 02, 2018 at 09:24 PM

BE

“ Prayers for your Family



BB&T Employees - February 02, 2018 at 08:47 PM

VD

“ I'm so sorry, for your loss. Love n prayers ❤️

Venisa Dotson - February 02, 2018 at 07:39 PM

BR

“ Sorry for you loss I well be praying for you all  
jesus loves you all



brian ray - February 02, 2018 at 06:47 PM

DH

“ Ami, Ben & Bobby and the rest of the family I  
am so sorry for your loss

Love  
Denease



denease harris - February 02, 2018 at 09:39 AM



Thank you, Denease. He loved you.

Sarah Bowling - February 02, 2018 at 12:41 PM

TR

*I was blessed to know and work with Hobart for 25+ years, and he was a wonderful man and friend to me who loved his family above all else. I will always remember Hobart's modesty, sense of humor, genuine interest in friends and family, dogged determination and wisdom drawn from long and distinguished legal and business careers. My condolences to Ami, Ben and Bobby for your great loss.*

*Tip Richmond*

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**Tip Richmond** - February 03, 2018 at 03:09 PM