



Henry Sylvester Johnston

June 8, 1929 - June 20, 2013

Johnston, Henry Sylvester
Saline, MI

God called Henry to his heavenly home on Thursday, June 20, 2013 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Superior Twp. He was born June 8, 1929 in Chattanooga, TN the son of William T. and Mattie (White) Johnston. After losing his mother when he was 10 years old, Henry lived with his sister, Mary Lou and her family, working to support himself. Jobs included selling newspapers, hotel bellhop, theater usher and working at a dairy and lumberyard. He enlisted in the United States Army at the age of 17 and served twice in Germany and at Ft. Bliss, TX. His time included six years in the regular Army and over thirty years as a reservist, working his way up to Chief Warrant Officer. Henry's civilian employments included Argus Camera, Aero Radio and Wiedemeyer Electronics for a short time, then he worked at the University of Michigan maintenance for over 30 years as an electrician and electrical supervisor. He also held memberships at the Saline American Legion Post # 322 and the Saline Masonic Lodge #133 F & AM, receiving his 40 year pin in September of 2012. While in Germany, Henry met an American girl, Barbara Gauerke, from Wisconsin whom he married on July 30, 1948 and she survives. Other survivors include a son, Michael (Myra) Johnston, three

daughters, Donna Johnston, Katherine Ramsland and Ruth (Douglas) Osborne, three grandchildren, Ming (James) Hower, Michael (Stephanie) Johnston and Marc (Brian Guerero) Johnston, three great-grandchildren, Brynna Hower and Bryson and Keeley Johnston, one brother, Charles Johnston, one sister, Iva Sue and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and five sisters, MaryLou, Dorothy, Irene, Geraldine and Imogene and also one sister-in-law, Gene. There will be a memorial service and celebration of his life on Tuesday, July 30, 2013 at 11:00 A.M. at Holy Faith Church 6299 Saline-Ann Arbor Rd., Saline with Rev. Ian Reed Twiss, officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to Holy Faith Church, Lutheran World Relief or the Saline Area Social Services. To sign Henry's guestbook, to leave a memory, or for more information for directions please visit www.rbfhsaline.com. Arrangements entrusted to the Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home, Saline.

Previous Events

Funeral Service

JUL **30**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Holy Faith Church
6299 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd
Saline, MI 48176
<https://www.holyfaithsaline.org>

Tribute Wall



“ *Henry Sylvester Johnston*

October 23, 2023 at 01:07 PM



“ *My sympathy to you. Prayers and loving thoughts and praise in Henry's wonderful life.*
Babs

Barbara Schmid Losee - July 16, 2013 at 07:23 AM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Donna Johnston - July 08, 2013 at 08:43 PM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Donna Johnston - July 08, 2013 at 08:36 PM

DJ

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Donna Johnston - July 08, 2013 at 08:32 PM

DJ

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Donna Johnston - July 08, 2013 at 08:29 PM

DO

“ One of Henry's best attributes was his ability to make another person comfortable while in his presence. His witty humor was the most comforting.

Me, being a son in-law was on the fortunate receiving end of his humor. Having him there for Ruth and I to help with the multiple wiring jobs we needed at our then new house and business was not only comforting, but also hilarious at times. I learned a lot from Henry during these wiring adventures. One of his methods I never had the nerve to master was his way to shut off a circuit remotely. He would touch the white wire to the black wire.. Boy the spark would be worthy of a 4th of July firework. Another was his way to see if a circuit was "Hot" , he would touch both wires at the same time and take the poke and laugh saying "Yep that's Hot"! and then tell me "that was stimulating". That is just a few examples of work related fun I had with Henry. He was a very hard worker, never afraid to jump in and lend a hand. His work ethic was second to none. I am honored to have known Henry. He has made me a better person.

Douglas Osborne

Douglas Osborne - June 29, 2013 at 10:15 AM

DJ

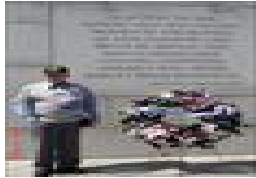
“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Donna Johnston - June 27, 2013 at 09:08 AM

DJ

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



Donna Johnston - June 27, 2013 at 09:07 AM

DJ

“ *My father's life had humble beginnings in Chattanooga, Tennessee. At 17 he joined the army near the end of WWII. Later marrying and starting a family he began to seek out educational opportunities to make himself a better man and better career candidate. I remember him studying electronics and always carrying a slide rule.*

He was in many ways my hero. Dad was intelligent, funny and made friends easily. Though we didn't always see eye to eye my career path gave me a new respect for him, and him for me. In the end we were friends. I am sure God welcomed him with open arms. Rest peacefully, Daddy. I will miss you.

Donna Johnston

Donna Johnston - June 27, 2013 at 09:02 AM

DJ

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



Donna Johnston - June 25, 2013 at 04:33 PM

DJ

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



Donna Johnston - June 25, 2013 at 04:24 PM

DJ

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



Donna Johnston - June 25, 2013 at 04:22 PM

DJ

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



Donna Johnston - June 25, 2013 at 04:20 PM

GR

Our prayers are with you and your family. Jim & Gayle

Gayle Rogers - June 27, 2013 at 07:41 AM

DJ

“ 2 files added to the album *New Album Name*



Donna Johnston - June 25, 2013 at 04:19 PM

DJ

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



Donna Johnston - June 25, 2013 at 04:17 PM

DJ

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



Donna Johnston - June 25, 2013 at 04:16 PM

KR

“ *My father was a role model for just doing whatever you needed to do to make your life work. When I was a kid, I saw a shelf full of complex books in his office at work and was amazed when he said he'd read them all. Until that day, I hadn't realized how self-educated he was. My favorite times with him were when he told stories from his days growing up. There was a lot more to him than he generally let on, but I've always appreciated how he made something of his life despite difficult circumstances. And kept his sense of humor. He continues to be an inspiration to me.*

Katherine Ramsland - June 24, 2013 at 03:54 PM