



Raymond Lavern Johnson

October 23, 1937 - October 6, 2021

Raymond Lavern Johnson was born to Wilber Lester Johnson and Emma Gertrude Johnson in Alton, Illinois on October 23, 1937. He passed away at his home in Red Bluff on October 6, 2021.

Raymond and his brother Richard moved to Corning from Oakland to live away from the city with his grandparents in 1951. He met Gartha Sutfin at Corning High School. He began attending gospel meetings, and in 1954 was invited to a week of Orick Convention preparations. After returning to Corning, he expressed his purpose to serve God in a Sunday morning meeting at Ray and Ada Spitzler's home.

Raymond and Gartha were married September 22, 1956. He began working for Safeway Stores in 1960.

In January of 1961, he was drafted into the army, where he served two years as a peacekeeper in occupied Germany. He arrived the day the East German government began to build the Berlin wall.

Raymond enjoyed time with his family, spending several weeks each summer at Mineral metal detecting and exploring the mountains. After retiring from Safeway in 1997, he enjoyed

travelling.

He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Gartha, daughter Heidi Johnson, son Evan Johnson, grandchildren Brenna Johnson, Ellie Johnson, Brant Johnson (Camille), Nora Johnson (Aaron,), great granddaughter Leah, and brother Richard Johnson He was preceeded in death by his parents, infant daughter Carly and son Wade Johnson. He will be missed by all.

Cemetery Details

Sunset Hill Cemetery

4470 Oren Avenue
Corning, CA 96201
(530) 824-2255

Previous Events

Funeral Service

OCT **15**. 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM (PT)

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Tribute Wall

MR

“ Dearest Gartha, Heidi, Evan and family,

My memories of Ray and your family go back as far as I can even remember, and they were always wonderful! I remember the year when we were small, and we all had Thanksgiving at Lola's and made the "society page" of the Corning paper! It was a must that we'd see you on our treks up to see Grandma and Grandpa Sterling. Your home has always been an oasis of hospitality and comfort because of the wonderful spirit you both possessed; we always left there happier and more encouraged than when we'd arrived. Albert was so grateful for the love and kindness you showed to his mom when you drove her back up to Fresno from San Diego when you were both here at the same time; she would mention that often as well. Thank you so much for all the walnuts that you lovingly shelled and sent our way for many years running; Albert absolutely loved them, and during the last year of his life, they were incorporated into many a smoothie that he enthusiastically consumed. We were so grateful and thrilled when you went on your Amazon River cruise that you took the time to stop in Santarem, Anthony's birth town, and deliver our gifts to our dear friends, his foster parents; the language barrier wasn't even considered an issue! You both have been such an inspiration to those of us coming after you in so many ways and most of all in your love and care for the family of God. We love and will miss you very much, Ray, and look forward to the day when we can all be together again.

*Much, much love always,
Michele (Floyd) Rizos*

Michele Rizos - October 15, 2021 at 01:14 AM

RF

“ Our memories of Ray go way back to the years before he & Gartha were married. We were close friends with Gartha's family & when Ray became a part of that family we immediately loved him and cherished his warm friendship. They have always been true friends. Even if we missed seeing them for months, we could always 'pick-up' where we had left off. I can't ever remember a time when we didn't feel completely comfortable in their home or they in ours. Now he has gone on to what he loved and lived for for so many years. His sweet consistent spirit leaves us with a desire to be like him in loving those things which are so worthwhile and are never changing or ending. We miss you dear friend, thanks for your love & kindness to all of us these many many years. With love from your old friends, Ron & Donna Floyd

Ron & Donna Floyd - October 14, 2021 at 06:35 PM

KF

“ Dear Gartha, Heidi, Evan and family,
Love you all so much and think of you now facing life without our beloved Ray. I have many sweet memories of you and Ray, Gartha....love that you came to see us twice, (no less), out on Guam and Saipan. Know that you have comfort! Keeping you close to my heart. Lots of love, kim

kimberly floyd - October 14, 2021 at 12:58 AM