



In Loving Memory of

Art Johnson

June 13, 1941 to September 17, 2023

Celebration of Life

Art Johnson

October 9, 2023

Elk River Lutheran Church

729 Main Street NW

Elk River, Minnesota

All are welcome.

Officiants: Rev. Nathan Mugaas & Rev. Anne Scheafer

**WHAT
WE HAVE
ONCE ENJOYED
WE CAN
NEVER LOSE
ALL THAT WE
LOVE DEEPLY
BECOMES
A PART OF US.
Helen Keller**

GATHERING

Pastor: Welcome in the name of Jesus, the Savior of the world. We are gathered to worship, to proclaim Christ crucified and risen, to remember before God our brother Art, to give thanks for his life, to commend him to our merciful redeemer, and to comfort one another in our grief.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Pastor: All who are baptized into Christ have put on Christ. In his baptism, Art was clothed with Christ. In the day of Christ's coming, he shall be clothed with glory.

ACCLAMATION

Pastor: Eternal God, maker of heaven and earth, who formed us from the dust of the earth, who by your breath gave us life, we glorify you.

All: We glorify you.

Pastor: Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the life, who suffered death for all humanity, who rose from the grave to open the way to eternal life, we praise you.

All: We praise you.

Pastor: Holy Spirit, author and giver of life, the comforter of all who sorrow, our sure confidence and everlasting hope, we worship you.

All: We worship you.

Pastor: To you, O blessed Trinity, be glory and honor, forever and ever.

All: Amen.

GREETING

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, source of all mercy and giver of comfort, graciously tend those who mourn, that, casting all their sorrow on you, they may know the consolation of your love; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

WELCOME

READING OF THE OBITUARY AND REMEMBRANCE **Pastor Cedric Olson**

MUSIC **When Peace Like a River, ELW 785**

SCRIPTURE READINGS **Ecclesiastes 3:1-12**
Matthew 5:1-10
Read by Jade and Scarlet Johnson

SERMON **Pastor Nathan Mugaas**

MUSIC **On Eagles Wings, solo by Taylor Quinn**

SCRIPTURE READING **Psalm 121**
Read by Livia and Violet Johnson

PRAYER'S OF INTERCESSION **Pastor: ...God of mercy, All: Hear our prayer.**

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

COMMENDATION

Pastor: Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Art. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive him into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. All: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and grant you peace. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, **All: Amen.**

RECESSIONAL SONG

Abide With Me, ELW 629

Following the service you are invited to head outside for a dove release, which will take place on the south side of the building, on the lower level by the river. You are then invited to a luncheon gathering in the Community Room.



DOVE RELEASE OUTSIDE

PRAYER

MUSIC

I'll Fly Away

Some glad morning when this life is o'er,
I'll fly away;
To a home on God's celestial shore,
I'll fly away (I'll fly away).

I'll fly away, Oh Glory
I'll fly away; (in the morning)
When I die, Hallelujah, by and by,
I'll fly away (I'll fly away).

When the shadows of this life have gone,
I'll fly away;
Like a bird from prison bars has flown,
I'll fly away (I'll fly away)

I'll fly away, Oh Glory
I'll fly away; (in the morning)
When I die, Hallelujah, by and by,
I'll fly away (I'll fly away).

Just a few more weary days and then,
I'll fly away;
To a land where joy shall never end,
I'll fly away (I'll fly away)

I'll fly away, Oh Glory
I'll fly away; (in the morning)
When I die, Hallelujah, by and by,
I'll fly away (I'll fly away).

Arthur L. Johnson, age 82, "Art" our faithful husband, father brother and friend, passed away September 17 at his home in Fort Myers, FL from complications of lung disease. He is preceded in death by his parents, Cliff and Dee Johnson. He is survived by his wife Deb of 48 years, two sons, Derek (Madeline), Jeremy (Sarah) and four granddaughters, Jade, Scarlet, Livia and Violet. He is also survived by his sister Diane (Stan) Hahn and family, as well as many extended family and friends.

For 34 years, Art was a teacher and principal with the Minneapolis Public Schools and Wayzata Public Schools. He served at Harrison, Jefferson, Jordan, Lincoln, Ericsson and Greenwood schools. He loved his life with all its experiences. He never went to work! He left his house everyday to participate in the life he loved and the bonus was that he collected a paycheck for doing so at the end of every week.

Art spent his retirement years enjoying his family, his friends and the activities he loved, including fishing, hunting, playing golf and traveling. Art enjoyed his homes in Elk River, and later in Brainerd and Fort Myers. He spent time in the outdoors gardening on his property and enjoying its natural beauty.

He especially enjoyed the company of his four little girls. As he became able to do less and less over the past 11 years, they were his world.

Art's most cherished activities occurred with family neighbors and friends. He was a good listener and a faithful helper to anyone in need. He thought of himself as a community member, no matter where that was: school, church and neighborhood, city or town. Art joined organizations and committees to be of service to others. He tried to help people he met in life's journey, to solve problems and leave things better than he found them. He believed he was richly blessed. He will be missed by those who knew and loved him.

**To all of Art's family and friends,
Please know that you were loved by him.**