



GERALD WAYNE JOHNSTON

October 1, 2024

Gerald Wayne Johnston, age 80, of Roanoke, Va., went to be with the Lord in the early morning of Tuesday, October 1, 2024. He was born to the late Mary and Stuart Johnston on July 19, 1944. Gerald was passionate about music and was a talented guitar and harmonica player. He enjoyed watching classic movies like, "Singing in the Rain," or TV series like "Perry Mason." Gerald was an avid Washington Redskins fan. He grew up in Salem, Va., and worked at the GE (General Electric) plant for several years.

While he didn't have any children of his own, he was loved and a friend to many including his Restin South family, and numerous old friends. His songs and stories will be deeply missed. Our time with him will be cherished.

Gerald taught us, challenged us, and made us smile. We know he is free from the burdens of his physical body now and is smiling on us all from heaven.

A funeral service to celebrate his life will be held at 10 a.m. on Thursday, October 10, 2024, in the Abbey at Sherwood Memorial Park in Salem, with Chaplain Ben Mewald officiating. He will be laid to rest following the service near his parents.

A period of viewing will be held from 9:30 a.m. until the service hour in the Abbey.

Paitzel Funeral Home of New Castle, Va., is caring for Mr. Johnston.

-Forever "pickin' and-a grinnin!"

Cemetery Details

Sherwood Memorial Park

1250 East Main Street
Salem, VA 24153

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **10**. 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

Sherwood Memorial Park
1250 East Main Street
Salem, VA 24153

Funeral Service

OCT **10**. 10:00 AM (ET)

Sherwood Memorial Park
1250 East Main Street
Salem, VA 24153

Interment

OCT **10** (ET)

Sherwood Memorial Park
1250 East Main Street
Salem, VA 24153

Tribute Wall

TR

“ We would like to thank Good Samaritan Hospice for taking such good care of Gerald in his last months. Gerald's special team of caring people were remarkable and joy giving. You helped us all. Thank you

TJ Rothmeier - October 04, 2024 at 03:58 PM

TR

“ Memories of Gerald from Restin South where Gerald lived for 23 years. Gerald shared with us early on stories of his childhood. He was adopted when his mother died and grew up as an only child. He rode dirt bikes and he loved motorcycles. He was an avid country music fan.

Over the years Gerald had many friends here. They were always entertaining each other and the staff too. Gerald took guitar lessons from Brian at Kelly's music for years and practiced daily, sometimes singing too. A favorite tune of his was Wildwood Flower by Chet Atkins. He also knew a lot of patriotic songs. Another passion of his was football. The Washington Redskins (Commanders) was his favorite team. Perry Mason was his favorite TV show, which he watched daily. He loved his potato chips and ice cream too. Gerald came to know The Lord early and went to church when he could. We miss his giggles, laughter and guitar playing. He was loved by many and we will think of him often.

— With love and cherished memories from the family (past and present) of Restin South Assisted Living.

TJ Rothmeier - October 04, 2024 at 03:23 PM

DT

Good ole Gerald! What a big grin he had, along w/ a twinkle in his eye. He will be missed by all his friends. ~
Dave & Debbie Tanis

Dave & Debbie Tanis - October 06, 2024 at 05:12 PM