



## Delmar Dean Johnson

June 12, 1932 - October 30, 2019

Delmar Johnson, 87, of Ocean City, MD, passed away peacefully, Wednesday morning, October 30, 2019.

Better known as “Del,” he was born June 12, 1932, in Indianapolis, IN, son of Grover Theodore Johnson and Lola Mae Martin.

He attended Emmerich Manual High School in Indianapolis. After leaving school at the age of 17, he enlisted in the US Army, and was sent to Fort Knox, KY, for basic military training. He was later sent to Fort Lewis, WA, where he became a Canoneer and Radioman in the 2nd Infantry Division. On July 21, 1950, his unit shipped from Seattle, WA, onboard the Troop Carrier USS Frederick Funston, arriving at Pusan Harbor, Republic of Korea on August 4. He was sent into action, and on his unit engaged the North Korean Army, and he was wounded in action. He was one of the first Korean War casualties received at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, DC, where his jovial personality earned him the nickname “Smiley.” He was awarded the Purple Heart, National Defense Service Medal, Korean Service Medal, United Nations Korean Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal, the Republic of Korea War Service Medal, and the Cold War Commemorative.

It was during his time at Walter Reed that he met his future wife, Kathleen Anne Collins. They were married on February 24, 1951, and were married 57

years.

He was medically retired from C & P Telephone in 1976. During his tenure with the phone company, he was at one time assigned to work at Camp David and met then President Richard M. Nixon.

Del was one of the original builders of Angler's Sporting Goods in Annapolis in 1968, and was associated with the store for many years. He was a member and past commander of the Kent Island American Legion Post 278. He was also a member of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, a founder of the Disabled American Veterans Chapter #9 in Centreville, Md; the Bay Country Moose Lodge in Queenstown, MD, and the VFW of Delmar, DE.

He was an avid fisherman and hunter, and enjoyed traveling across the country. He was involved in farming and gardening, raising and butchering hogs, and making homemade scrapple. As many will attest, he was a "never met a stranger" kind of man.

Del and Kathy raised their family in Brentwood, Riverdale and Cape St. Claire, MD, before moving to Kent Island, MD, in 1976, where they resided for almost 30 years. They later lived in Mardella Springs and Salisbury, MD. After the death of his wife, Del moved to Ocean City.

Delmar was predeceased by his parents, his wife of 57 years, Kathleen; three brothers, Lawrence, Rollie, and Delbert; sister Margie Agee; and a granddaughter, Jessica Lynn White.

He is survived by his sons, Richard (Marci) Johnson of Anchorage, AK, and Michael (Betsy) Johnson of Chester, MD, and daughters, Karen Greer of Fruitland, MD, Sheryl Johnson of Newville, PA, and Christine (Kevin) Helmeczi of Mount Wolf, PA; ten grandchildren, Stephen (Patricia) Johnson of

Greensboro, MD, Jennifer (William) Purdum of Annapolis, MD, Christopher & Michael Johnson of Anchorage; Kathy Jo (Curt) Knierim of Federalsburg, MD; Jessica Dawn Harrison of Pittsburgh, PA; Timothy Greer Jr. of Holland, Mi; and Casey and Kaidan Helmeczi of Mount Wolf; and sixteen great-grandchildren; as well as numerous nieces and nephews, whom he loved very much.

Visitation will be Saturday, November 2, from 2 to 4 pm, at Fellows, Helfenbein, and Newnam Funeral Home in Chester, MD. After the visitation, there will be a gathering at the Kent Island American Legion Post 278.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Coastal Hospice of Wicomico County, 2604 Old Ocean City Rd # 4629, Salisbury, Md 21804.

# Cemetery Details

## Arlington National Cemetery

Arlington, VA

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV 2. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Chester Location / Kent Island  
106 Shamrock Road  
Chester, MD 21619  
(410) 643-2226  
[info@fhfuneralhome.com](mailto:info@fhfuneralhome.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Delmar Dean Johnson* ”



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**Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home** - November 02, 2019 at 09:55 AM



“ *Delmar Dean Johnson* ”

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October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Delmar Dean Johnson* ”

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January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *Delmar Dean Johnson* ”

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January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM

GO

“ As a caregiver at CCAL Delmar “Del” was the brightest one of them ALL. Even on a bad day he would still make you smile. Oh and don't get him mad because he'll definitely have a lot to say. I'm glad I was able to take care of someone like him. I was actually there when del took his last breath. I thought he was playing a joke on me but nope he had left me. Prayers to his kids & his family



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**GOR** - December 04, 2019 at 12:47 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Delmar Dean Johnson.



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November 01, 2019 at 12:11 PM

BH

“ My Uncle Del was a wonderful man. He wasn't an uncle he was a father to me. When I was little I called him Daddy Del. He took me to a father daughter dance at school, took me on vacations just like I was one of his own. And when I got married it was this wonderful man that walked me down the aisle. Rest in peace and I will see you again. I love you

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**Barbara Hargis** - October 31, 2019 at 08:00 PM



“ *Fall Fantasia was purchased for the family of Delmar Dean Johnson.*



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October 31, 2019 at 01:41 PM



“ *Tracy Schulz sent a virtual gift in memory of Delmar Dean Johnson*



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**Tracy Schulz** - October 31, 2019 at 12:07 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Delmar Dean Johnson.*



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October 30, 2019 at 06:07 PM