



Leslie J. Johnson

March 29, 1920 - May 16, 2011

Leslie J. "Les" Johnson died on May 16, 2011 at The Manor at Perrysburg, Ohio. He turned 91 on March 29. He moved to The Manor last month after health issues required nursing care and to be with his wife.

Les and his wife of 62 years, Phyllis, raised 10 children in a small West Toledo home. All 10 went on to succeed in their chosen fields, a source of considerable pride for Les.

Les was well-known in West Toledo, where for 38 years he owned and operated Johnson Sohio [later BP] on West Bancroft Street next to the University of Toledo. He was loved and respected by his many loyal customers and his employees.

Les's formula for success was simple: Give people good, pleasant service. Stay open in all weather. Choose a good company to work with. Know your products. And treat your employees well.

As Les's children prospered, he took enormous joy in posting their business cards on the kitchen wall in his home. He constantly juggled the cards as they moved in their careers and up the corporate ladder.

In their later years, Les and Phyllis joined their son, John, and daughter, Joan, at a Johnson family compound on the Maumee River in Waterville. There they enjoyed the scenic beauty and the frequent visits by their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Les was born in Toledo in 1920. He graduated from DeVilbiss High School in 1938 and was a member of Christ the King Church. Les married Phyllis on

June 4, 1949.

He was preceded in death by his son, Larry Johnson. Surviving are his wife, Phyllis; children; Jean [Dave] Smith, William [Kathy] Johnson, Joan Channell, John [Deborah] Johnson, Tom [Donna] Johnson, Kim [fiancé Joe] Johnson, Mary Ann [Mike] Ramm, Jackie [Brian] Heldt, and Linda [Rob] Tatro, Sandy (Larry) Yeager and Nancy Murphy and daughter-in-law, Lorie Johnson; 16 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Visitation will be from 3:30pm to 7pm on Tuesday May 17th at Coyle Funeral Home, 1770 So. Reynolds Road, where a Memories Sharing time will begin at 7pm. Funeral services will be at Christ the King Church at 12 noon on Wednesday where the family will receive friends beginning at 11:30 a.m. Interment Resurrection Cemetery. Contributions can be made to The Toledo Area Humane Society. Les enjoyed the company of Mable and Jake, both adopted from the Humane Society. Please also consider the American Heart Association.

Tribute Wall



“ *Les was a fine man. The years I worked at the station he was more like a father than a boss. God Bless Les and Larry my best friend. Stay strong. Michael###imported-begin###Michael Shoffer masi12@sbcglobal.net###imported-end###*

May 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *John and Tom, My condolences on the passing of your father. I remember how much you both thought of him. You only took me over to his station a couple of times, but he always recognized me and was always very friendly to me. Always took time to say "Hello". He was a good man who lived a long life. I'm sure he will be missed by all those that knew him.*

Harlo and Junior, I think of the Bumkin Brothers whenever flashbacks of the "old days" pop into my head. They always bring a smile to my face. I would really love to go back and have one more tuna and noodle dinner in your Arlington apartment. There.... I'm smiling again!

I do hope all is well for both of you and for both of your families. Would be nice to run into you guys sometime.

My your Father always be in eternal light and resting in eternal peace. God speed to him and to us as we finish our lives. May we meet again on the other side.

Best wishes,

Joe Imhof###imported-begin###Joe Imhof###imported-end###

May 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Linda and family you are in my thoughts and prayers. Love you and god bless.

Carrie Drossman##imported-begin##Carrie Drossman##imported-end##

May 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Linda,
I am very sorry to hear about your loss, my thoughts and prayers go out to you and your entire family.

God bless,

Ken##imported-begin##Ken Zielinski##imported-end##

May 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Les will be sadly missed. He was such a fun man to be around. He was a great boss, and the days that I worked at Sohio (1984 - 1985), will always be bright memories.*

From driving to Max Days for Chili, or going to Grose Generator for parts, or even when Les took us all of his employees out to dinner for Christmas...Les always made his employees feel like family...and in a way we were.

I always enjoyed opening up on Sunday mornings with Jimmy James, while Les would tell us what was wrong with the world and how it needed to be fixed. He always had us laughing.

I hope that some of these memories will help you in the coming days. Les was REALLY loved by his employees and his customers...what other gas station would receive dozens of Christmas cards from customers!

God Bless, Mike Maxson##imported-begin##Mike Maxson mike@toledocomputerrepair.com##imported-end##

May 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dear John and Deb-*

I am sorry to hear of your loss. It sounds, by the obituary, that Mr. Johnson was very proud of his family.

In sympathy,

*Susan##imported-begin##Susan L. Conda
susan.conda@att.net##imported-end##*

May 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Our Thoughts and Prayers are with the entire Johnson Family at this time of deep sadness, Les was a very kind and gentle soul and will be greatly missed by all. May GOD bless You and keep You Always.##imported-begin##Ron ("6-Pack")##imported-end##

May 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Tom & Donna,
We are thinking of you and your family & praying for you.##imported-begin##Mark & Denise Gunner mark.gunner@ryobi.com##imported-end##

May 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Kathy and Bill, I am sorry for your loss and my prayers are with you.##imported-begin##Deb Lawniczak##imported-end##

May 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Sorrow has touched our hearts in such a personal way. You are not alone-our caring thoughts are with you now and in the days to come. With deepest sympathy. Pat and Paul##imported-begin##Pat and Paul Deal mrpdspd@roadrunner.com##imported-end##

May 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ I'm saddened by the loss of your father and our neighbor. He is missed already by friends and family. We all remember the wonderful times at the 4th of July neighborhood picnics. I can just picture him and Phyllis sitting at one of the picnic tables talking to Mom, Dad, and the other parents enjoying a cool bottled beverage watching all the kids running around.

Prayers and thoughts go out to all of you.

God Bless.

~Beverly##imported-begin##Beverly Bradner Bestpitch beverlybestpitch@hotmail.com##imported-end##

May 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ I know that Mr. Johnson must have been a wonderful person and dad after working with his son John. I know that he will be missed by his family. May the happy memories made by your family, children, grandchildren and great grandchildren sustain you through your loss. You are all in my thoughts.##imported-begin##Laurie Chandley laurie.chandley@secontainer.com##imported-end##

May 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Maryann and the whole Johnson Family. You are all in my thoughts and prayers. Keep your memories with you always. Know that your family and friends are here for you. God Bless##imported-begin##Lisa Ramm lramm@bex.net##imported-end##

May 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Jean and Family,*

Shawn and I offer our deepest condolences to all of you in this time of sorrow. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you.##imported-begin##Dianne Osborn dianne.osborn@learnshare.com##imported-end##

May 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Thank you for being the best Dad ever! We will miss you so much. I am sure you are enjoying yourself with Larry, your Mom and all of the relies that are up there with you. You always put your family first and we had so much fun from new jammies at Christmas, trips to Cedar Point & East Harbor when we were young to playing cards, going to westgate dinner theatre, picnics at Olander and great family times. Bye for now. Love you forever.##imported-begin##Jean and Dave##imported-end##*

May 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM