

Honorary Pallbearers

Brothers-in-law and Cousins

Pallbearers

United States Army Honor Guard

Floral Bearers

Trinity House of Help and Mercy

And so I solemnly urge you before God and before Christ Jesus—who will someday judge the living and the dead when he appears to set up his Kingdom— to preach the Word of God urgently at all times, whenever you get the chance, in season and out, when it is convenient and when it is not. Correct and rebuke your people when they need it, encourage them to do right, and all the time be feeding them patiently with God’s Word. For there is going to come a time when people won’t listen to the truth but will go around looking for teachers who will tell them just what they want to hear. They won’t listen to what the Bible says but will blithely follow their own misguided ideas. Stand steady, and don’t be afraid of suffering for the Lord. Bring others to Christ.

Leave nothing undone that you ought to do.

I say this because I won’t be around to help you very much longer. My time has almost run out. Very soon now I will be on my way to heaven. I have fought long and hard for my Lord, and through it all I have kept true to him. And now the time has come for me to stop fighting and rest. In heaven a crown is waiting for me, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give me on that great day of his return. And not just to me but to all those whose lives show that they are eagerly looking forward to his coming back again.

~2 Timothy 4:1-8 (Living Bible)

Services Entrusted To:

Taylor Street Chapel

1831 Taylor Street
Columbia, SC 29201

(803)771-7799

I. S. Leevy Johnson
-Owner & Director-

Leevy's

F U N E R A L H O M E

Chris Leevy Johnson
-President & Managing Director-

Lower Richland Chapel

9120 Garners Ferry Road
Hopkins, SC 29061

(803) 776-6922

Leverette A. Williams, II
-General Manager-

*Homegoing Service
Celebrating the Life
of
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Howard Johnson*



Sunrise

December 8, 1949

Sunset

February 25, 2023

Thursday, March 2, 2023

10:00 a.m.

Reid Chapel A.M.E. Church

704 Gabriel Street

Columbia, South Carolina

Reverend Carey. A. Grady

-Pastor-



“There is discipline in a soldier. You can see it when he walks. There is honor in a Soldier. You hear it when he talks. There is courage in a soldier. You can see it on his eyes. There is loyalty in a soldier that he will not compromise. There is something in a soldier that makes him stand apart. There is strength in a soldier that beats from his heart. A Soldier's job isn't finished after an 8-hour day or a 40-hour week. A Soldier is always A Soldier even while he sleeps. A Soldier serves his country first and his life is left behind. A Soldier has to sacrifice what comes first in a civilian's mind. A Soldier is the reason our land is 'Home of the free'. A Soldier is the one that is brave protecting you and me.” ~Angela Goodwin

Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Howard Johnson was born on December 8, 1949, to Ms. Callie Johnson McKinstry, in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. He departed this life on Saturday, February 25, 2023, at his home in Columbia, South Carolina.

Colonel Johnson was a 1968 graduate of Western Olin High School, Birmingham, Alabama, a 1980 graduate of Benedict College, Columbia, South Carolina, and a 1993 graduate of the Command and Staff General College, Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas.

Colonel Johnson was married to Reverend Mary Eichelberger Johnson, the love of his life, for fifty years. From the first time he saw Mary on the yard of Benedict College, he knew she would be his forever girl. Through his union to Mary, he became the proud father of Reverend Lametis A. Johnson, who is the Pastor of Greater Mount Pisgah A.M.E. Church, St. Matthews, SC and Howard Tryon Johnson, Musician for Trinity House of Help and Mercy. Colonel Johnson was also an extremely devoted grandfather to Mariah Latreese Johnson.

Colonel Johnson retired from the United States Army Reserve, in 2007 after thirty-seven years of faithful and dedicated service. Prior to retirement, he served as Assistant Professor of Military Science for four years at the University of South Carolina and Benedict College. His last assignment was the Brigade Executive Officer with ultimate responsibility in supervision of the Brigade Staff covering a six (6) state region, to include Puerto Rico.

While Colonel Johnson was proud to have served his country, he was even more proud to be a Soldier in the Army of the Lord. Colonel Johnson served as Deacon at Trinity House of Help and Mercy. He was a devoted student of the Word of God, and he served as a Bible Study Teacher at Trinity.

Colonel Johnson was an active member of the Eau Claire Ministerial Alliance. Both, he and his wife, were instrumental in establishing an “in-school youth curriculum” mentorship program at Heyward Gibbes Middle School for 7th and 8th graders. For one year, the program was established at W. J. Keenan High School, in Columbia, SC. As a member of the Eau Claire Ministerial Alliance, Colonel Johnson and his wife conducted prayer weekly at Eau Claire High School, Keenan High School, Gibbs Middle School. and E .E. Taylor Elementary School.

Colonel Johnson was also a co-host of the Praise Hour of Preparation radio broadcast and ministered to radio listeners with his wife and niece, Scheri Eichelberger every Sunday on the Worship and Word Network and Columbia’s Praise.

Colonel Johnson enjoyed spending time with family and friends, fishing as well as hunting. His favorite verse was “*Trust in the Lord with all thine heart and lean not to your own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.*” *Proverbs 3:5-6 KJV.*

Even through his illness, Colonel Howard Johnson was steadfast in ministering to others, with a humble heart and without a word of complaint. He is now wearing his long-awaited crown and is resting in the arms of his Lord, Jesus Christ.

Colonel Johnson’s legacy will forever live on in the hearts of those who knew and loved him. His memory and life will especially live on through his wife, Mary; his sons, Lametis (Treska) and Howard, and through his pride and joy, granddaughter, Little Miss Mariah Latreese Johnson. He will also be missed and remembered by his mother, Mrs. Callie Johnson McKinstry, of Birmingham, Alabama; sister, Shirley Ricks (Otis) Bessemer, of Alabama; brothers, James McKinstry and Quintin McKinstry (Evelyn), both of Birmingham, Alabama, aunts, Anne Dixon, Nancy Johnson, both of Columbia, South Carolina, and Willie M. Coleman (Frank), of Fairfield, Alabama; and a multitude of relatives and friends.

Order of Service

Prelude.....Soft Music

Processional

Prayer of Comfort.....Reverend Henry Bush

The Liturgy of the Word

The Old Testament.....Psalm 139:1-10.....Dr. Reginald Burden
Grace Fellowship Church, Columbia, SC

The New Testament.....Philippians 1:3-11.....Pastor Tommy Rush
Mt. Seir Baptist Church, Blythewood, SC

Selection..... Ms. Scheri Eichelberger

Reflections: *Limit Two Minutes, Please*

Reverend Clifford Eichelberger, *Trinity House of Help and Mercy*
Western Olin Class of 1968, *High School Classmates*

Deorriel Hackett, Cedric Coleman, LTC Frank Coleman, Jr, Tracy Johnson, and Alden Johnson, *Cousins*

Selection.....Harp & The Soul Disciples

Words of ComfortReverend Dr. Charles E. Young, *Presiding Elder*
Midlands District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church

SelectionCombined Choirs

Recessional

Postlude



Committal, Benediction and Interment

12:00 Noon
Fort Jackson National Cemetery
4170 Percival Road
Columbia, South Carolina

Acknowledgement

“Your words have comforted us, your support has strengthened us, and your love has sustained us.”
We, the family of Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Howard Johnson, extend our deepest thanks to you for your kindness, during our greatest sadness. We appreciate it more than words can express. It will always be remembered. We would also like to extend a special thank you to the Lexington Oncology Team.

~The Johnson Family