

Thomas "Tom" Murphy Johnston

January 21, 1944 - August 27, 2019

Thomas "Tom" Murphy Johnston, 75, of Mason City, IA died Tuesday, August 27, 2019 at his home.

A visitation will be held from 5-7 p.m. with a 7:00 p.m. Rosary then Wake Service on Tuesday, September 3, 2019 at Fullerton Funeral Home, 123 2nd St SE, Mason City. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, September 4, 2019 at Epiphany Parish-Holy Family Catholic Church, 722 N Adams Ave, Mason City. Father Josh Link will be officiating. Burial will follow at Memorial Park Cemetery in Mason City. In honor of Tom, the family requests those in attendance wear either Iowa State/Packer apparel or dress casual.

Tom was born on January 21, 1944 in Victoria, Texas to Harold and Virginia (Morris) Johnston. He was raised in Mason City by his grandparents, Harvey and Matilda Johnson. Tom graduated from Mason City High School in 1962. Throughout his life he was self-employed and worked primarily as a salesman. On August, 26, 1989 he was united in marriage to Avis (Schmitt) Johnston.

Tom was a past Exalted Ruler of the Mason City Elks Lodge, 4th Degree Knights of Columbus, member and former administrator of the Moose Lodge and member of Holy Family Catholic Church.

In his free time he really enjoyed cooking; especially barbequing. Tom took classes to become a barbeque judge for the Kansas City Barbeque Society and Steak Cook-Off Association. Every morning you could find Tom having coffee with fellow friends at the Mason City Senior Center. Tom was an avid sports fan and enjoyed watching the Packers, Iowa State Cyclones and NASCAR races. He enjoyed traveling to Texas to watch NASCAR races and Wisconsin to visit family.

Those left to cherish Tom's memory include his wife, Avis; children, Michael Johnston and Thomas Johnston II and their mother Sally Johnston; grandchildren: Miranda, Tommy and Mikala; brother, Harold Johnston and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and brother, Robert "Sunny" Johnston and his wife Mary Jo.

Cemetery Details

Memorial Park Cemetery

Mason City, IA

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 3. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Fullerton Funeral Home in Mason City
123 2nd St. SE
Mason City, IA 50401
(641) 423-8676
mail@fullertonfh.com
<https://www.fullertonfh.com>

Parish Wake Service

SEP 3. 7:00 PM (CT)

Fullerton Funeral Home in Mason City
123 2nd St. SE
Mason City, IA 50401
(641) 423-8676
mail@fullertonfh.com
<https://www.fullertonfh.com>

Rosary Service

SEP 3. 7:00 PM (CT)

Fullerton Funeral Home in Mason City
123 2nd St. SE
Mason City, IA 50401
(641) 423-8676
mail@fullertonfh.com
<https://www.fullertonfh.com>

Mass of Christian Burial

SEP 4. 10:30 AM (CT)

Holy Family Catholic Church
714 N Adams Ave.
Mason City, IA 50401

Tribute Wall



“ Thomas "Tom" Murphy Johnston

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ I WANT TO THANK ALL WHO CAME TO MY DADS VISITATION AND FUNERAL HE WAS AND STILL A GREAT DAD MISS U SOOOOOOO MUCH!!!!

mike h johnston - September 12, 2019 at 07:37 PM



“ Mike H Johnston lit a candle in memory of Thomas "Tom" Murphy Johnston



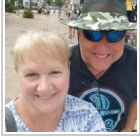
mike h johnston - September 03, 2019 at 03:15 PM



“ From, Patrick T. Johnson purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Thomas "Tom" Murphy Johnston.



From, Patrick T. Johnson - September 03, 2019 at 11:06 AM



“ *Johnston Family -*

I'm so sorry for your huge loss. I just saw Tom on Friday, Aug 16th at the Friday Night Live concert at Mason City Central Park. I was so happy to have a conversation with him as I haven't seen him in 35+ years. I used to babysit for them when I was a teenager and they treated me really good! They would order a meal from KFC for me.

He was a good man.

Rhonda Graff Schulz



Rhonda Schulz - September 02, 2019 at 08:34 PM

MJ

thank you Rhonda i remember all the fun we had u were the best and only babysitter we ever had !!

mike h johnston - September 03, 2019 at 03:11 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Thomas "Tom" Murphy Johnston.*



August 31, 2019 at 08:11 PM

LM

“ *Avis and family,*

My sincere sympathy to you at this sad time. Tom enjoyed our MCHS '62 monthly class coffee; he ALWAYS arrived early, waited for our 'table' and had our place ready when we all arrived. He always had a story to tell and was the first to answer any question that came up during our conversations. I'm thankful that we enjoyed an evening together at the SURF in May when we attended a comedy night together. He was a very good friend and I'll miss him! We were forever friends. Linda Moen Muth

Linda Moen Muth - August 29, 2019 at 07:53 PM

CO

“ *Clear Lake Optometry lit a candle in memory of Thomas "Tom" Murphy Johnston*



Clear Lake Optometry - August 29, 2019 at 11:09 AM

CO

Clear Lake Optometry. :)

Clear Lake Optometry - August 29, 2019 at 11:11 AM

DS

“ *Tom was one of the first KCBS judges I met and through the years I enjoyed visiting with him at all the contests KCBS and SCA. Tom will truly be missed.*

Duane Shores - August 29, 2019 at 10:42 AM

TW

“ Bbq and Steak contests will just not be the same without Tom. He did love it all. Sending hugs and prayers to Avis.

Tina Woosley - August 29, 2019 at 08:49 AM

CJ

“ We will miss Tom on the KCBS & SCA trail. Noylto to mention him showing up all decked out in his Iowa State garb & telling all us Iowa fans we were jealous we didn't look that good. RIP Tom. Hugs of comfort to you, Avis & Mike.

Cindy Juhl - August 28, 2019 at 06:16 PM

BS

“ We loved Judging with Tom and his wife. We just saw him in Mason City. He will be missed by everyone. We are so sorry for the families loss and pray for their memories to help them during this time.

beth Salzl - August 28, 2019 at 05:19 PM

MJ

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



mike h johnston - August 28, 2019 at 03:04 PM



We lost a friend, KCBS BBQ judge and a SCA steak judge. You will be missed at competitions Tom. Jim & Leona Sallee and you judging friends.

Leona Sallee - August 28, 2019 at 04:57 PM

TW

So sorry for your loss. Tom will be missed by many

Tina Woosley - August 28, 2019 at 07:33 PM

KP
Erickson

“ *My uncle my godfather my moose father. Youll greatly be missed. Ill always think of you during bbq bashes.*

KP Erickson - August 27, 2019 at 10:33 PM



“ *MY DAD WAS THE BEST MY ONLY DAD THOUGH THICK AND THIN HE WAS THERE ALONG WITH MY MOMS SALLY AND AVIS NEVER DID I HAVE TO SAY STEP MOM OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT AVIS WAS A MOM TO ME ALSO DAD AND I WENT THOUGH ALOT DAD I MISS YOU ALREADY , DAD LOVED BBQ SO MUCH*

Mike Johnston - August 27, 2019 at 10:10 PM