



Pastor Kenneth M. Johnson

January 14, 1944 - December 25, 2021

Pastor Kenneth M. Johnson, 77, of Delmar and Deal Island, passed away peacefully on Christmas morning, December 25, 2021, at TidalHealth Peninsula Regional in Salisbury.

He was born January 14, 1944, in N. Wilkesboro, North Carolina, a son of the late Jeff H. and Inez Wiles Johnson.

Pastor Ken graduated from Sussex Central High in Georgetown with the class of '62. Growing up, he enjoyed camping and the outdoors and loved his time in the Boy Scouts. In his younger days he had a passion for stock car racing and had a reputation as one of the best mechanics in the business. He could fix anything, and if all else failed, he always knew how to rig it up to make it work. After graduation he worked as a welder for the Maalox Co. in Lewes for several years. In 1972, he made the life decision to serve the Lord and started his pastoral career as an assistant pastor at the First Baptist Church of Georgetown. In 1977 he became the head pastor at Faith Baptist Church in Delmar and quickly fell in love with the church and its congregation. He had a passion for helping children and for over 40 years was the head of Camp Faith, helping kids experience summer camp but for no charge. Pastor Ken was devoted to Faith Baptist and proudly started the Eastern Shore Preacher Fellowship Group, and he will be remembered as a true friend to so many preachers. If there was a need to raise funds for a good cause, Pastor Ken could always be counted on. His love for the outdoors stuck with him throughout his lifetime and nothing made him happier than spending time on

the water in Deal Island, fishing, or cruising on his pontoon boat with friends and family on the bay and local rivers. He and his wife Gurelda enjoyed spending time at their Deal Island home, and he looked forward to hanging around the “Spit and Chew” crowd, his local group of watermen at the docks. Pastor Ken was an excellent cook, especially when it came to frying fish or oysters. He was also an avid NASCAR fan and loved hitting yard sales with Gurelda on Saturday mornings. Pastor Ken Johnson led a full life and will be missed dearly by his family and friends and his extended church family from Faith Baptist Church.

He is survived by his wife of over 57 years, Gurelda Hill Johnson, who he married on August 14, 1964; children, Craig Johnson and wife, Sandra of Texas, Cale Johnson and wife, Kimberly of Delmar and Kim Niblett and husband, Brian of Laurel; grandchildren, Jessica Whetsel, Kenzie Williams (Jordan), Kelsey Johnson, Cody Niblett (Veronica), Kaylin Johnson, Dylan Niblett and Cason Johnson; brother, Ronnie Johnson (Maxine) of Georgetown; and sisters, Cheryl Johnson of Georgetown and Joyce Gower of West Virginia. He is also survived by several nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a sister, Kathleen Bowers.

A funeral service will be held Friday, December 31, 2021, at 11:00 a.m. at Faith Baptist Church in Delmar, where family and friends may visit from 10:00 to 11:00. Interment will be private.

Memorial contributions may be made in his memory to Faith Baptist Church, 1207 E. State Street, Delmar, MD 21875.

Arrangements are in the care of Short Funeral Home in Delmar. Online condolences may be sent to the family by visiting www.shortfh.com.

Cemetery Details

Rock Creek United Methodist Cemetery

23570 Deal Island Road
Chance, MD 21821

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **31**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Faith Baptist Church of Delmar
1207 E State Street
Delmar, MD

Funeral Service

DEC **31**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Faith Baptist Church of Delmar
1207 E State Street
Delmar, MD

Tribute Wall



“ Having read all of the comments there really is not much to add. One thing is sure and that is our Lord Jesus Christ has richly blessed us to have known the presence of our dear, caring friend. What a great example he is to those who yet remain on this earth! I am very thankful for his friendship. It will not be long until we are reunited in heaven. May our Sweet Lord bless those who are left behind.

Dr. Thomas Berg Sr.

Thomas Berg - December 31, 2021 at 09:30 AM

CB

“ *Chuck and Janna Buettner*
Pastor Ken was our dear friend for over 35 years. We shared many good times at the pastor's retreats in the Poconos. We caught a lot of fish together. He was a friend of the Baltimore Rescue Mission. We enjoyed many ESPF meetings together. We love him and we will miss him greatly.

Chuck Buettner - December 30, 2021 at 09:53 PM

RB

“ We are saddened at the news, and it will not be the same without Pastor Johnson. As a missionary we crossed paths with many Pastors. Some have a light that shines brighter than others. And if the Lord tarries, I want to remember the shadow that his light shined on our path and mirror that light. We were blessed with his presence, his leadership, guidance and his love. The world will not be the same without him. He will not be forgotten. See you again some day our dear friend. Richard and Ann Bibey

Richard Bibey - December 30, 2021 at 09:35 PM

BM

“ I first met Br Ken in 1991 and preached for him in 1992. Through the years we worked together on a few projects and mostly me being greatly ENCOURAGED by him.
Two weeks ago he called me when he learned of one of our Atlantic Coast Baptist College students dying at the scene of a head-on collision. I was not available and He wept for the students and for the families on my answering machine. That was his heart, he loved people and especially preachers.
I'm so glad that we both said with meaning, "I love you brother " the last time we talked.

Bruce Miller - December 30, 2021 at 09:09 PM

BM

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Bruce Miller - December 30, 2021 at 08:59 PM

WH

“ Pastor Johnson always made me feel welcome when I'd drop in to visit. I was thankful he allowed me to share my ministry with his church family. He and his family are precious servants of the Lord.
~Wendyjo Householder

Wendyjo Householder - December 30, 2021 at 08:45 PM

JB

“As a pastor, I was introduced to Brother Ken Johnson through preachers’ fellowships, particularly the ESPF which he started and led for many years. He loved preachers and he loved me. He was radiant with the joy of the Lord! Even in adversity, his light shined brightly for Jesus. I love Ken Johnson! He will be missed, but oh praise the Lord for His promise of the great reunion day that is to come! Thank you, Brother Ken, for so faithfully serving the Lord, making a difference in so many lives. Thank you for making a difference in my life! Until we meet again!

Love,

Pastor Jeff Berg
Forest Ridge Baptist Church
Forest Hill, Maryland

Jeff Berg - December 30, 2021 at 04:48 PM



“Years ago a group of us men decided to go to Pastors School (Indiana).
I was riding in the back seat beside brother Ken. He was looking over sermons he either had preached or was going to preach. He stopped at one, and chuckled.
I asked him what was the title of the sermon.
He smiled, and said - CHURCH HOPPERS THAT NEED TO BE FLUSHED 😊😊😊
I have never forgotten it.

Pat Lankford - December 30, 2021 at 12:34 PM

DT

“As a pastor myself I am uncomfortably aware of how unbearable I can be and how obtuse and abrasive some other pastors are as well, but Pastor Ken Johnson was the furthest thing from all of these caricatures. He was kind, approachable, gentle, and warm. I met him about 15 years ago and encountered him about a dozen times since. Every time our paths crossed, he was a consummate gentleman. As a host, he was cheerful and humble. As a fellow minister, he was encouraging and caring. What a great example for the rest of us. I pray for God's abundant grace on all the many the surviving loved ones and friends!

Dave Talley - December 30, 2021 at 08:49 AM

CB

“Pastor Ken and I go way back many years and he and a group from the church used to come in once a month to preach and teach at the Wicomico County Detention center where I have been the chaplain for the past 36 years. He was both a delight to be around and in some ways a mentor when I first began the chaplaincy. Above all, he was a friend.

Chaplain Gene Brown - December 30, 2021 at 08:15 AM



“Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Pastor Kenneth M. Johnson.



December 29, 2021 at 08:54 PM

JC

“ Many summers of my youth were spent with Pastor Johnson and the family. Days at the beach, VBS, his infectious laugh, and his love of fishing for both men and fish. My dad met Pastor Johnson on a missions trip to Haiti, they were fast friends. Pastor Johnson always had a smile and a hug for me. He shaped my life by being faithful. He will be dearly missed. I bet he and my dad are on some heavenly lake catching fish. They probably can't name it Visitation like they did here so if people asked what they had been doing, they could say. "We were on Visitation. "

Jennifer Bish Clark - December 28, 2021 at 11:57 PM

JO

“ Sorry for your loss!

Janice Owens - December 28, 2021 at 06:30 PM

DC

“ My father's funeral was the first funeral that Pastor Johnson performed in 1977. He also did my aunt and uncle's funerals as well (Jane and Paige Ewell.) I remember sitting in the congregation on Sunday mornings singing Just As I Am while he led countless people to the altar. He was a good man, and he will be missed.

Dan Cropper - December 28, 2021 at 09:24 AM

DR

Ken,

Ken has been a faithful Pastor friend for 45 years. We prayed together many many times for our families and church families.

Ken finished His course faithfully and will always be one of my heroes!

Every Pastor needs a Ken Johnson in His life. He is missed but I know God was good to loan him to us as long as He did.

Looking forward to REUNION with Him and being with our Savior.

Praying for comfort for Gurelda and Family and Faith Baptist Church Family

"Heaven Sounding Sweeter

All The Time"

Don Reynolds

Don Reynolds - December 28, 2021 at 10:52 PM

BB

“ *Worked with pastor Ken about 25 years in the minstry sorry for the loss for the family.*

Bill Bratten - December 27, 2021 at 03:05 PM