



Patti Lauren Johnson

January 4, 1951 - July 16, 2015

Patti L. Johnson

MEMPHIS, TENN-Patti Lauren Johnson, 64, formerly of Racine, beloved daughter and sister, went home to be with her Lord and Savior on Thursday, July 16, 2015. She was born in Racine on January 4, 1951 to the late Robert and Winifred (nee: Hilker) Johnson. Patti was a graduate of Washington Park High School "Class of 1969". She continued her education at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside, where she enjoyed studying English composition with National Book Award winner and playwright Dr. Herbert Kubly, and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in biology in May 1975.

In 1976, Patti moved to Memphis, Tennessee, home of her paternal aunts, Mrs. Shirley (nee: Johnson) Metcalfe and Mrs. Phyllis (nee: Johnson) Craven. Patti retired from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in 2011, where, beginning in 1976, she had worked in medical research in the labs of Lester Van Middlesworth and Syamal Bhattacharya. She played a key role as grant-writer and co-author on numerous medical research papers with Professor Bhattacharya.

While living in Racine, Patti was a member of Grace Baptist Church. When she moved to Memphis, she became a member of First Evangelical Church and served on five mission trips to Hungary and Belize. She was a private pilot, a published writer of fiction, and a gifted artist. Patti enjoyed horseback riding and walking her beloved Dobermans, Spartacus, Demetrius, Arras and Bella at Shelby Farms. She had a special place in her heart for all animals,

and the Memphis Zoo was one of her favorite destinations. Even though she spent most of her adult life in Memphis, she also returned hundreds of times over the years to visit family and friends in Racine.

Patti is survived by her brother, Robert (Melanie) Johnson of Terre Haute, Indiana; sisters, Colleen Roberts of Nashville, Tennessee and Jeri (Stuart) Smith of Allentown, Pennsylvania.

She is further survived by nephews, Eric (Charlene) Roberts, Michael (Leah) Smith, Adam Roberts and William Roberts, nieces, Laura Roberts and Stephanie Smith, and one grand-nephew, Isaac Roberts.

Patti's funeral service to honor her life will be held on Saturday, July 25, 2015 at Sturino Funeral Home.

Visitation will be held from 11:30 a.m. until 12:00 noon followed by a brief service. She will be laid to rest at West Lawn Memorial Park, following services.

In lieu of flowers, Patti requested that memorials be given to New Hope Uganda Ministries -Musana Camp, the Racine Zoo, or the Elephant Sanctuary in Hohenwald, Tennessee.

Cemetery Details

West Lawn Memorial Park

9000 Washington Ave
Racine, WI 53406

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 25. 11:30 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Sturino Funeral Home
3014 Northwestern Avenue
Racine, WI 53404
(262) 632-4479
info@sturinofuneralhome.com

Funeral Service

JUL 25. 12:00 PM (CT)

Sturino Funeral Home
3014 Northwestern Avenue
Racine, WI 53404
(262) 632-4479
info@sturinofuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall

DC

“ *Patti was always greatly loved by my parents Rufus and Phyllis (Johnson) Craven. After living with my parents for a few years after arriving in Memphis, she visited them often over the years. She would come see them for dinner weekly when my mom cared for my dad during the last year of his life. She treasured Patti's visits, always looking forward to the next one. She was a blessing to iur family. Sending love and condolences to her sibilings, neices, and nephews. David Craven.*

David Craven - April 17, 2016 at 03:30 PM

JM

“ *To the Family of Patti Lauren Johnson,
So sorry to learn about the loss of your Dear Loved One, Patti.
Please know that so many people share your grief with you to help
you through this difficult time of sorrow. Please accept my deepest
condolences as we await the time when Christ Jesus will awaken all
of those who have fallen asleep in death; including your Beloved,
Patti.
(John 11:41-44)*

J. Moore - July 23, 2015 at 03:30 PM