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Bruce Wesley Johnson Jr.
February 14, 1949 - February 25, 2016

Bruce Wesley Johnson Jr., 67, passed away on February 25, 2016, in Akron, Colorado.

Bruce Johnson was born February 14, 1949, in Durango, CO. He moved to Boone, IA as a young boy. In 1967 he graduated from Boone High School and then attended Boone Junior College. After being drafted in June of 1968, he enlisted in the Navy for six years. While in the Navy, he attended electronics technician training schools and then was stationed on the island of Guam. During this time he worked as an electronics technician supervisor, repairing and servicing various radar, communications, and cryptography equipment.

After being discharged in 1974, Bruce returned to Iowa where he worked as an electronics technician for the George Rolfes Co. building and repairing grain temperature monitoring equipment. In 1978 the company's main facility moved to Nebraska, giving him the opportunity to open his own business, YesterYear Auto Parts. Here he pursued his love of restoring antique and classic automobiles.

In 1985 he moved to Akron and managed Akron Coach Works restoring antique automobiles until 1989. During this time he met Wilbur Stelk who always knew how to fix or make any parts needed to restore the automobiles. Wilbur also shared his drawings, poems and short stories with Bruce.

Bruce and Wini met in the summer of 1985 at the baseball field where their sons, Mike and Cori, played on the same baseball team. On August 8, 1988, Wini and Bruce were married.

The next eight years were spent working for Y-W Electric. In 1997 Bruce and Wini started their own heating and cooling business called Legend Enterprises. Bruce's largest heat pump project was installing a ground source heat pump in the St. Isidore Catholic Church in Watkins, CO. After selling their business in 2002, Bruce was elected Washington County Commissioner.

As Commissioner, he served on the Centennial Mental Health Board, Eastern Colorado Roundup Fair Advisory Board, Northeast Colorado Department of Health, Washington County Department of Human Services and Clinic Board and served as the Town of Akron County Representative. Along with Randy Hays, he helped start Akron's annual National Radial Engine Air Show. He loved watching the planes fly in and enjoyed riding in the B-52 bomber. He was also instrumental in organizing the Washington County Carnival Committee bringing Colorado's First Home-Owned Carnival to town. He helped raise money to purchase a Ferris wheel, merry-go-round and mechanical bull. His priority was giving little kids a safe and fun time at the fair. In 2010 he retired as Commissioner.

In August of 2015, Bruce and Wini were nominated as Grand Marshalls for the Washington County Fair Parade. He was humbled by this award and loved every minute of it. It was a great tribute to the countless hours he spent preparing and working at the fair.

In his spare time, Bruce enjoyed playing softball with Grahams Upholstery team in Brush!, playing co-ed volleyball, bowling, and also was a member of the Elks, Lions and the VFW. His grandkids were a great part of his life. He enjoyed spending time with them playing ball and attending Rockies games. He also loved the time he spent with his mother-in-law, Phyllis Lee, and her friends at the nursing home. He always told everyone she was his sweet heart because they shared the same birthday on Valentine's Day.

Bruce is preceded in death by his father Bruce Wesley Johnson Sr., his brother, Ed Johnson, father-in-law Marvin Lee and brother-in-law Tim Lee. Survivors include his wife, Wini of Akron, CO; his mother, Geraldine Johnson of Boone, IA; his mother-in-law Phyllis Lee of Akron, CO; two brothers, Tom Johnson and wife Lynette of Rio Rico, AZ and Eric Johnson and wife Jill of Jefferson, IA; sister-in-law, Linda Johnson of Aimes, IA; three sisters-in-law, Sharon Christensen and her husband Bob of Akron CO, Karen Walker of Akron, CO, and Lynn Lee of Brush!, CO; three step-children, daughter Heidi Jenson of Nunn, and son-in-law Kevin Jenson of Wiggins, CO, son Cori Hall and his wife Claricy of Erie, CO, daughter Amanda Hottinger and son-in-law David Hottinger both of Akron, CO; two children, daughter Kelli Moore and husband Greg of Boone, IA, Mike Johnson and Amy Jardon of Cedar Falls, IA; eight grandchildren, Courtney, Jacob and Caitlyn Jenson, Jaden Hottinger, Greyson and Ethan Hall, Mitchell and Marshall Moore; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services are being held Wednesday, March 2, at 10:30 A.M. at the Akron Four Square Church, 901 East First Street. Memorial donations may be made to the Bruce Johnson Memorial Fund.