



Paulette Loyd Johnson

March 26, 1947 - February 2, 2024

IN MEMORY OF:

Paulette Loyd Johnson

Serving Location:

CRAIN FUNERAL HOME – MURPHYSBORO

1421 Walnut Street, Murphysboro, Illinois

Paulette Loyd Johnson of De Soto, Illinois joined her family in Heaven on February 2, 2024, at the age of 76, in her home surrounded by family.

Paulette was born on March 26, 1947, in Herrin, Illinois to Jewell and Odell Loyd, the second of three children. She married her loving and devoted husband John, on September 20th, 1980. The couple raised two sons, Kent and Keith.

She attended De Soto Grade School and Carbondale Community High School before earning her Associate of Arts in 1980, Bachelor of Science in Business Education in 1983, and Master of Science in Education in 1990 from Southern Illinois University. Paulette committed to continuing her education as a single working mother, a testament to her tireless determination and her devotion to

her family. She taught and served as the Coordinator of Special Projects at John A. Logan College for 21 years and has enjoyed retirement since 2008.

A lifelong resident of De Soto, Paulette was a pillar of her community. She served on the village board for 27 years and devoted countless hours to her hometown. Paulette planned and organized the De Soto Daze Community Festival and Car Show, Milk and Cookies with Santa, Christmas at the Gazebo, and the annual Easter and Halloween community celebrations for many years. Her fingerprints can be seen all around the village, most notably at the De Soto Community Park, including the Paulette Johnson Playground, dog park, softball fields, walking track, and the Paulette Johnson Skate Park. Her mission was to create a safe place for the children of De Soto to enjoy. Her service to the village also included the creation of the De Soto Senior Citizen Park and welcome berms located around the village.

Paulette was wholly committed to every endeavor that she chose to undertake. Her volunteer work also included being a 4H Club leader, school room mother, and PTA member at De Soto Grade School, Lions Club, and Paul Stout American Legion Post 127. She exemplified the values of volunteerism, and the impact of her initiative and dedication will continue to be felt far and wide.

Paulette loved spending time with her grandchildren. She was always involved in their endeavors, lending her time to their various activities, such as sports and dance. Paulette and John also lovingly contributed to the upbringing of numerous "chosen grandchildren." They opened their home to many and treated all who walked through their door as family. Paulette was simply known as "Grammy" or "Mimi" to many.

Her greatest joy in life was being a devoted wife, mother, Grammy, sister, and friend. Her unwavering love and support instilled lifelong values of family, hard

work, and determination in her children and grandchildren. She loved her family endlessly, and her wit, comforting presence, thoughtfulness, and wisdom will be missed so dearly.

Paulette was very intentional about relationships with those close to her, never forgetting a birthday, anniversary, or special occasion; she never failed to make those who crossed her path feel special and loved, regardless of time passed or distance.

Later in life, Paulette gained another family member, her dog Kamri. As her protective companion, they shared many memories and snacks, as they were inseparable.

Paulette is survived by her beloved husband John; sons Kent (Marcie) Buckles of De Soto and Keith Javors (Buckles) of De Soto; grandchildren Zachary (Mary Reed) Buckles of Grapevine, Texas, Ian Buckles (Zoe Gavin) of North Aurora, and Sierra Buckles (Vincent Rushing) of De Soto; and sister Barbara Humphrey. She is also survived by nieces and nephews Randy, Julie, and Dalton Humphrey of Royalton; Hannah, Jake, and Lakelyn Carlock of Murphysboro; Jon, Andrea, Alexandria, and Mattea Humphrey of Livingston, Tennessee; Kelsey, Kevin, and Sophie Fagerland of Murphysboro; Brigette and Daniel Richey of Aurora, Colorado; and Callie, Rowdy, and Ryder Loyd of Murphysboro. She also leaves behind umpteen cousins and special friends, including Suzanne Immen, Richard Loyd, Deanna and Wayne Wheelles, and Jana Fann.

Paulette was preceded in death by her parents; brother John; brother-in-law Guy Humphrey; and nephew Christopher Loyd.

Services will be at 6 p.m. Friday, February 9, 2024, at Crain Funeral Home –

Murphysboro with the Rev. Chris Hottensen officiating. Visitation will be held from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. prior to the service.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Hospice of Southern Illinois and Southern Illinois Healthcare Cancer Institute.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Crain Funeral Home.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 9. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (cst)

Crain Funeral Home - Downtown Murphysboro
1421 Walnut St
Murphysboro, IL 62966
(618) 684-2131

Celebration of Life

FEB 9. 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (cst)

Crain Funeral Home - Downtown Murphysboro
1421 Walnut St
Murphysboro, IL 62966
(618) 684-2131

Tribute Wall



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Paulette Loyd Johnson.



February 09, 2024 at 11:25 AM



“ Fern and Jasmine Martin planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Paulette Loyd Johnson.

Fern and Jasmine Martin - February 08, 2024 at 06:19 PM



“ Fern and Jasmine Martin purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Paulette Loyd Johnson.



Fern and Jasmine Martin - February 08, 2024 at 06:19 PM



“ Jason & Christina Rushing and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Paulette Loyd Johnson.

Jason & Christina Rushing and family - February 07, 2024 at 08:17 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Paulette Loyd Johnson.*



February 07, 2024 at 08:17 PM



“ *Terri and Hannah from PreK purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of Paulette Loyd Johnson.*



Terri and Hannah from PreK - February 05, 2024 at 06:59 PM

DG

“ Two quick things that made Paulette special to me.

Before the first time Ian was coming to visit I had to pass the “granny” test. She called me to basically check our family, and Zoe, out.

I loved that, few people would make that call. By the time we hung up, she had me laughing and I felt like I was talking to a friend. Paulette was such a strong woman, her love for her family was limitless. When Zoe left for college it was clear that I was lucky to have Paulette, and the entire family, looking out for her.

The other moment I am not sure if even Paulette knew this. When I lost my mom a few years ago I was devastated. Nothing anyone said eased the heartbreak. At least until Paulette’s card came. Her words were perfect and they eased my heart a little. I will never forget how meaningful that card was. She knew exactly what to write.

While I sat by my mom’s hospital bed those years ago, overcome with grief, I tried to say goodbye. Suddenly I had a moment where everything felt calm, colors were cloud like, and in that moment I knew, 100%, that I would see her again. Everything in me cleared for probably 10 seconds, and peace took over. That fast it was gone.

I write about this because I hope you feel her around you and find peace to comfort you. May God bless and comfort you through your grief, until you see her again. ❤️

Sending our condolences, Deb Gavin and family. (Zoes mom)

Deborah Gavin - February 05, 2024 at 06:50 PM

DS

“ I have so many wonderful memories with Paulette that I can't think of one more precious than all the others, Paulette was my 4H leader, involved with our softball days, She let all of our group have slumber parties at Her house and taught us how to play cards. She was always available to us for any kind of counseling that we needed, sometimes even when we didn't ask for it but She felt we needed it. I will miss Her deeply as will all residents of DeSoto and all that knew Her.

Dana Smith - February 05, 2024 at 05:08 PM

JE

SORRY TO HEAR OF PAULETTE DIDN'T NO HER VERY LONG JUST MEET HER AT THE AMERICAN LEGION. SHE WAS A VERY NICE LADY GLAD TO HAVE NONE HER SHE WAS ALWAYS KIND TO ME. IT WAS GOOD TO NO PEOPLE LIKE HER. THIS IS MARK PETE MARTIN SISTER. PRAYERS FOR ALL THE FAMILY

Jeanie Ellis - February 06, 2024 at 03:36 PM