



Mr. Richard "Dick" Johnston

January 8, 1937 - March 4, 2021

Richard "Dick" Johnston, 84, of Burke, died Thursday, March 4, 2021 at his home.

Born on January 8, 1937 in Bellmont, NY, he was the son of Ernest and Leola (Whittemore) Johnston.

He was married to Frances VanKirk on June 27, 1959 in Levittown, PA. She predeceased him on February 6, 1998. He then married Sally DeShane on October 20, 2001 in North Burke Church by Pastor Keith Smith.

Dick enlisted in the United States Army in 1955 and after 20 years of honorable service, he retired as Rank E8 Master Sergeant. He was very active in the American Legion Organization, serving as past commander of John E. Harrica Post #875, Chateaugay. He was also an active member of the Honor Guard and the Firing Squad. He served as NYS Franklin County Commander, 4th District Commander (Wagon Master), Adjutant and Historian, 3rd and 4th District Department Vice Commander, personal aide to the NYS Department Commander, as well as a member of 40-8 and ANAVICUS, Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans in Canada, United States.

Upon his return, he worked for the McCadam Cheese Plant for 20 years before retiring and served for 20 years as an assessor for the Town of Burke. Dick was active in the North Burke Church. He was a member of the Frontier Lodge 517 Free and Accepted Masons and served as a past Master. He was a patron of the Frontier Chapter #203 Order of the Eastern Star and a district grand lecturer. Dick was very active with starting the youth programs in the

Town of Burke. His greatest love was for his family.

Dick is survived by his wife of 19 years, Sally; children, Karen and Kevin McDonald, Richard Johnston Jr., Kimberly McMillan, Marianne and Dean Meacham, Nanci and Herman Downer, Keith and Carrie Johnston; grandchildren, Kristina, Jason, Jordan, Travis, Nathan, Emily, Becky, Dottie, Rachael, Rebecca, Dean Jr., Cory, Kaylie, Mackenzie, Riley, Daryn, Allisyn and Jacob; and many great grandchildren; a sister and brother-in-law, Eleanor and Bob Quigley; in-laws, Donna Johnston, Edith Johnston, Nancy Andrusko, Alfred (Carole) VanKirk, Richard, Jerry, Edward and David (Marlys), Robert (Hazel) and Janice DeShane; as well as several nieces and nephews.

Besides his first wife, he was predeceased by his parents; brothers, Calvin, Gordon "Sandy", Robert, Everett, and Donald; and sister, Mary Jean Selkirk; a great grandson, Tucker; and a son-in-law, Robert McMillan.

Calling hours will be held at the Chateaugay Funeral Home on Monday, March 8 and Tuesday, March 9 from 2-4 p.m. and 7-9 p.m.

A funeral service will be held at the North Burke Church, Burke on Wednesday, March 10 at 11 a.m. with Brian Dwyer officiating. In accordance with current health restrictions, those in attendance are asked to observe the use of face coverings and social distancing.

Spring burial will be held in Sandy Knoll Cemetery, Chateaugay.

Donations in Dick's memory may be made to the American Legion John E. Harrica Post #875, Frontier Lodge 517 Free and Accepted Masons and Frontier Chapter #203 Order of the Eastern Star.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 8. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Chateaugay Funeral Home
36 Church Street
Chateaugay, NY 12920
(518) 497-6781
hwilcox2@twcny.rr.com
<https://www.chateaugayfuneralhome.com/>

Visitation

MAR 8. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Chateaugay Funeral Home
36 Church Street
Chateaugay, NY 12920
(518) 497-6781
hwilcox2@twcny.rr.com
<https://www.chateaugayfuneralhome.com/>

Visitation

MAR 9. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Chateaugay Funeral Home
36 Church Street
Chateaugay, NY 12920
(518) 497-6781
hwilcox2@twcny.rr.com
<https://www.chateaugayfuneralhome.com/>

Visitation

MAR 9. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Chateaugay Funeral Home
36 Church Street
Chateaugay, NY 12920
(518) 497-6781
hwilcox2@twcny.rr.com
<https://www.chateaugayfuneralhome.com/>

Service

MAR 10. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM.

North Burke Church
Burke, NY

Burial

MAY 20. 11:00 AM (ET)

Sandy Knoll Cemetery
Chateaugay, NY

Tribute Wall

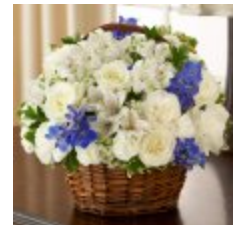
DA

“ I have many, .many fond memories of Dick, especially at Legion functions, where he served in many capacities and with the utmost respect and care for the greater good. His devotion to fellow Veterans, his country and all The Legion stood for is highly commendable! Always a true gentleman, would help anyone in any way he could, and so loved his family. He will be sorely missed but never forgotten.. To all is family and friends, I give my sincere sympathy and prayers of comfort, peace and strength during this difficult time and the days ahead. Rest easy now and safe gentle journey home Dick .

DAPHNE ABBOTT - March 09, 2021 at 05:18 PM



“ Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Mr. Richard "Dick" Johnston.



March 09, 2021 at 11:40 AM



“ My condolences and at the same time remembering a good and reliable employee in the maintenance department of McCadam Cheese Company.

*Simo Heikkila
Maintenance Manager of Chateaugay cheese plant in 1993-1996
Helsinki, Finland*

Simo Heikkilä - March 09, 2021 at 10:35 AM

BD

“ *Bob & Pat Dyer purchased the European Sympathy Dish Garden for the family of Mr. Richard "Dick" Johnston.*



Bob & Pat Dyer - March 09, 2021 at 10:31 AM

AN

“ *American Legion Lenny & Nils purchased the Red, White & Blue Sympathy Basket for the family of Mr. Richard "Dick" Johnston.*



American Legion Lenny & Nils - March 08, 2021 at 12:52 PM

JQ

“ *JUDY A QUEOR lit a candle in memory of Mr. Richard "Dick" Johnston*



JUDY A QUEOR - March 08, 2021 at 01:05 AM

EC

“ *Dear Family,
It hurts to loose special person like Mr. Dick. Yet, the God of Heaven who wires us all to grieve is also the God of ALL COMFORTS. As you move forward on this journey may God now go to work to heal your hearts. All the American Legion members down here in the State of Tennessee join me in expressing our condolences on the passing of Mr Dick, from this life to the next. We love taking the time to honor the service of faithful soldiers who served this nation at such an important time in our history. May the Lord bless all of you and keep you and may His face shine upon you and may He send 10,000 stories to share with the world.*

FOR THE COMMANDER

*Eddie Rogers, Chaplain
Department of Tennessee
American Legion*



Eddie Rogers Chaplain - March 07, 2021 at 08:45 AM

ER

A solute -- The highest form of respect.

Eddie Rogers - March 07, 2021 at 08:46 AM

JF

“ James Casey, TAL-DNY Department Adjutant & Friend purchased the Red, White & Blue Sympathy Basket for the family of Mr. Richard "Dick" Johnston.



James Casey, TAL-DNY Department Adjutant & Friend -
March 07, 2021 at 07:08 AM

T-

“ The American Legion Dept. Of NY -Headquarters purchased the Red, White & Blue Sympathy Standing Spray for the family of Mr. Richard "Dick" Johnston.



The American Legion Dept. Of NY -Headquarters - March 07,
2021 at 06:59 AM

AF

“ Sending my deepest sympathy! Dick will be surely missed by us all. Sending thoughts and prayers!

Ann Fitzgerald - March 06, 2021 at 07:31 PM



“ Blue & White Sympathy Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Richard "Dick" Johnston.



March 06, 2021 at 06:50 PM

YC

“ Sally, I know your heart is heavy with the sorrow that you bear. May you find comfort to know how deeply I care. May God's love make your grief bearable. You are in my thoughts, heart and prayers. Dick was a gently, kind man. He will be truly missed.

Much Love

Yolanda Comproski

Yolanda Comproski - March 06, 2021 at 04:24 PM



“ Simply Lily was purchased for the family of Mr. Richard "Dick" Johnston.



March 06, 2021 at 04:13 PM



“ We are so sorry for your loss. Dick will truly be missed! God Bless...



Linda Kinum - March 06, 2021 at 12:32 PM

AN

“ Aunt Nancy purchased the Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket for the family of Mr. Richard "Dick" Johnston.



Aunt Nancy - March 06, 2021 at 09:17 AM



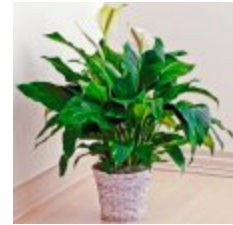
“ *Fields of Europe for Spring was purchased for the family of Mr. Richard "Dick" Johnston.*



March 06, 2021 at 08:01 AM



“ *Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Mr. Richard "Dick" Johnston.*



March 06, 2021 at 06:39 AM



“ *Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Mr. Richard "Dick" Johnston.*



March 06, 2021 at 02:38 AM



“ *It's breaks my heart to hear that Dick is gone and that we wont be able to see each other at another Spring Conference at the Quality inn. He was a wonderful man and I always looked forward to working with him. We always shared a laugh and loved it when he would tell me the story of how him and Sally met at my hotel. God bless you Dick and I am so glad our paths crossed and we were able to work together.*

Kristin Preston - March 05, 2021 at 10:21 PM

RR

“ Dick was one of those larger than life men that earned respect of those he came across, especially among those in the American Legion. He loved the Legion and loved its members, always putting others first and insuring their success. I have many fond memories of Dick, his seriousness, his sense of humor, and his patriotism. He will be missed greatly from our ranks and our lives will be a little less complete. Sally, please contact us if there is anything you may need. We are praying for your family.

Randy & Ronna

2 Timothy 4:7-8

" I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; in the future there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing."

Randy & Ronna - March 05, 2021 at 08:57 PM

S3

“*Saint Regis Post 322, American Legion salutes Dick Johnston as he enters our Lord's Kingdom. He was a great friend and supporter of our Post. We will miss him greatly.*

We can find no better words to offer than from our Legion's manual:

“We realize how futile are mere words to express our deep and abiding sympathy in your loss. May you feel our comrade is at rest, and in endless peace. Generation after generation, all the shadowy peoples of the past have lived as we live, perplexed and mystified by death. They have gone into the great beyond with hearts filled with wistful longing, as all must go. “Surely there is an afterlife for all who have been loyal and true, a life to which light and peace shall come, where the burden shall be lifted and the heartache shall cease, where the love, the hope and the fulfillment that escape us here shall be given to us, to be ours forever.”

May God Bless the Johnston family. Contact us Sally if you need anything.

St Regis Post 322 - March 05, 2021 at 08:40 PM



“*Daphne Abbott lit a candle in memory of Mr. Richard "Dick" Johnston*



Daphne Abbott - March 05, 2021 at 07:48 PM



“ *Multicolor Pastel Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Richard "Dick" Johnston.*



March 05, 2021 at 07:35 PM



“ *sally, I'm so very sorry for your loss . My prayers are with you and the family.*

cathy Steele (maggie daughter)

Cathy xsteele - March 05, 2021 at 06:57 PM



“ *Sharon LaFlesh lit a candle in memory of Mr. Richard "Dick" Johnston*



Sharon LaFlesh - March 05, 2021 at 06:42 PM

SL

“ Words can't quite express my sadness in the passing of Dick. He was one of my late husband Garry's best Legion buddies and good friend, and the night that my Garry passed away, Dick was right there at the hospital to offer words of comfort and caring. Through our precious faith I know that Dick, my Garry, Charles A., Lester B., Abe H., Gerry L., and Charlie G. and his Fran too are having a great reunion beyond the stars. My heartfelt sympathies go out to Dick's wife Sally, a good Auxiliary friend, and his dear children and grandchildren and great grandchildren. Dick was one of the best, always reaching out to help someone, be it family, friend or stranger. Rest In Peace, Dick! Love you!
Sincerely,
Sharon LaFlesh

Sharon LaFlesh - March 05, 2021 at 06:10 PM

LM

“ Larry Montello lit a candle in memory of Mr. Richard "Dick" Johnston



Larry Montello - March 05, 2021 at 05:04 PM

LM

“ Dick and I go way back when I first started the legion family I like thank you so much for you help with the legion family mostly with the sons of the American legion Dick you will be miss a lot mostly by me May You RIP my friend and legionnaire Prayers to you and your family till we meat a gan!! MY FRIEND ALWAYS Larry Montello

Larry Montello - March 05, 2021 at 04:59 PM