



Kleo D Johnson

April 17, 1927 - December 4, 2012

ADRIAN—Kleo Donna Johnson, age 85, of Adrian, MI made her transition on Tuesday, December 4, 2012, in her home, under the care of Hospice of Lenawee.

She was born on April 17th, 1927, in Adrian, MI to Blanche Agnes (Thompson) and Donald DeWitt Carter, both of whom preceded her in death. Siblings, Kenneth, Roland, Harriet and Marland and one great granddaughter, Brittany, also preceded Kleo in death.

Kleo attended Adrian Public Schools, received her BS from Adrian College and her MA from Eastern Michigan University. Kleo began her employment as a teacher at the Adrian Training School for girls and later became the first African American teacher hired into the Adrian Public School system.

Kleo Johnson has had a remarkable life journey and many firsts as an educator and community activist. She was an untiring pioneer as she led through voice and action the charge for necessary changes within the community always in a Christian manner. Kleo not only was a gifted orator as a requested speaker throughout the State but she wrote numerous articles about her faith and civil rights. Kleo was also known for her vocal accomplishments. Kleo loved to sing and was known for her soprano voice within the community.

Kleo believed in the capacity for humanity to change and committed herself to action to be a part of that change through service. She volunteered with the Parent Aide Program, Bixby Hospital, and Meals on Wheels; received awards from Adrian College Athletic Council, Adrian College Athletic Hall of Fame 1992, Missionary's Hall of Fame 2004, and was a recipient of the 1993 Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Community Award; she was also active in various organizations, she served as coordinator of Ecumenical Development for Church Women United of Lenawee County, developed the adjusted studies programs in both Alexander and Michener Schools, Michigan State President for the Women's Christian Temperance Union, Michigan AME 4th District Women's Missionary Society Torch Lighter, president of Lenawee County Retired School Personnel (1993-94), and a devoted member of Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church where she served as a Steward, Stewardess, experienced Bible Study scholar, Adult Choir member, consecrated Deaconess in the Michigan Annual Conference, former member and former President of the Ethel Griffith Missionary Society; and a faithful enthusiastic participant, teacher and Assistant Superintendent and Superintendent of the Sunday School, Secretary of Ann Arbor Area Missionary Society and Vacation Bible School.

Kleo was married to Buford Johnson who preceded her in death in 2008. To the union of Kleo and Buford surviving are their children; Pamela Agnes Johnson, grandchildren Sean Wesolowski (spouse Nicole) and Erica Wesolowski-Wright (spouse Phillip), great-grandchildren Sofia and Phillip Jr.; Justine Johnson-Stewart (spouse Ronald), grandchildren Dreycem, great grandchildren Breanna, Aliyah and Anthony Jr.; Carter David Johnson (spouse Bonita), grandchildren April, Azure, Damon and Anthony, great grandchildren Ronald, DonaVon, Cyan, Sienna, Lucas, Cerise, Dreighton; Lynne Ann Johnson-Lopez (spouse Joe), grandchildren Jake, Matt, Fina; Leslie Allison Johnson-Smith (spouse Larry), grandchildren Lisa, Kelly,

Traci, Matt, great grandchildren Gregory Jr., Brandon, Josh, Chelsea, Lauren, Skyler, Jacob, Devin, Emma, Connor, Cole, Luke, great great grandchildren Gregory III, McKenzie, Braden, and Peyton. Kleo is also survived by one sister, Florence Carter and numerous family and friends.

Funeral services for Kleo will be held at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, December 8, 2012 at the Wagley Funeral Home with Rev. Howard Trnumn officiating. The family will receive family and friends at the funeral home from 4:30 to 8:00 p.m on Friday. A mother's love can never be replaced nor forgotten. Memorial contributions may be made to Bethel AME Church and the Lenawee County Hospice. On line condolences are welcomed at www.WagleyFuneralHome.com

Cemetery Details

Oakwood Cemetery

East Siena Heights Drive
Adrian, MI 49221

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 7. 4:30 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wagley Funeral Home (Adrian)
1501 W. Maumee St.
Adrian, MI 49221
(517) 263-1400
info@wagleyfuneralhome.com
<https://www.WagleyFuneralHome.com>

Service

DEC 8. 2:30 PM (ET)

Wagley Funeral Home and Cremation Service
1501 W. Maumee St.
Adrian, MI

Tribute Wall



“ *Kleo D Johnson*

January 28, 2023 at 12:24 PM



“ *To Lynne and Leslie(because you are my girls), my heartfelt condolences to you and the family. Miss Kleo has been part of my life since I was small and her passing leaves a void. Mother Kleo was the epitome of kindness, caring, and spirituality. I am blessed to have had her as a role model of how a Christian woman acts. My love to all of you. Giving Praise to the Most High.*

Pat Brown - December 07, 2012 at 06:39 PM



“ *Kleo Johnson will be greatly missed by the members of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union in Michigan and throughout the United States. She was past president of the Michigan Union. She had real leadership and helped our organization in many ways. We are praying for her family and friends. Kleo not only worked with our ladies and gentlemen but taught in our YTC/LTL (Youth Temperance Council/ Loyal Temperance Legion)Leadership Training Camp held each summer.*

*Dorothy Tanner
President
Michigan WCTU*

Dorothy Tanner - December 07, 2012 at 06:07 PM

JW

“ Huge respect for Mrs. Johnson...I admired not only her but her beloved husband. Their Christian character and the way they lived their lives were testimonies of the love that our Lord poured out through them. They are united once again and our family rejoices in that.

She was a remarkable lady and I will miss her greatly.

All of us who know the Lord Jesus will be reunited again with them for a glorious eternity! I look forward to seeing Mr. and Mrs. Johnson again when I transfer my address!

*With deepest sympathy extended to the entire family,
Joe Wagley, III & Family*

Joe Wagley - December 06, 2012 at 08:28 PM

JW

“ The members of Lenawee County Retired School Personnel express their sympathy to the family of Kleo Donna Johnson upon the death of their Mother and Grandmother.

Those of us who taught in Adrian Public Schools, knew Kleo as an educated and remarkable woman caring about the students she taught. Kleo certainly was a wonderful example of living life to the fullest: home and family life, love for her country, civic minded, a deep faith, and a love for purpose!

Love and prayers to to Kleo's family members.

Jane Waldo - December 05, 2012 at 07:28 PM



“ Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Kleo D Johnson.



December 05, 2012 at 02:57 PM

CY

“ I remember Kleo when she was a Girl Scout Leader in Birdsall and also my mom, Nancy Yoder, worked with Kleo at the Adrian Training School. Such a wonderful lady! The family will be in my thoughts and prayers.

*With sincere sympathy,
Carla Yoder*

Carla Yoder - December 05, 2012 at 02:53 PM

JT

“ Joshua Torres lit a candle in memory of Kleo D Johnson



Joshua Torres - December 05, 2012 at 01:04 PM

SD

Dearest Pam,

Mama has finally seen God face to face. Imagine the joy.

May you find the peace that passes understanding.

Sybil Diccion (your old classmate at Siena)

sybil diccion - December 06, 2012 at 12:51 AM