



## Francis "Frank" Earl Johnston

October 21, 1934 - December 21, 2010

Francis Earl "Frank" Johnston, 76, of Salisbury passed away peacefully at his home Tuesday, December 21, 2010. An extremely loving, devoted husband and provider for his family, Mr. Johnston was a pilot, world traveler, educator, animal lover, athlete, comedian, risk taker and a purveyor of Egyptian art.

Born October 21, 1934 in Syracuse, NY he was the son of the late Charles and Lucretia Klock Johnston.

Mr. Johnston received his BA in Social Studies/Education from Syracuse University, his MS in Guidance/Counseling from Eastern Illinois University and his EdS from Ball State University in Guidance/Counseling.

He was a veteran of the US Air Force for 24 years before retiring in October 1978 with the rank of Captain. A fighter pilot, he served 2 tours in Vietnam. After retirement he taught in the Texas School System from 1979-1986, served as an Educational Diagnostician and Supervisor of Special Education from 1986-1998 in Pearsall, TX and San Antonio, TX at Harlandale Independent School District before retiring. He also worked as an Educational Diagnostician for the Gastonia, NC schools after relocating to North Carolina in 1998, before moving to Salisbury in 2001 where he taught at North Rowan High School for 2 years and then served a year as a NC Correctional Officer at the Salisbury Piedmont High Rise Prison.

He was of the Methodist faith and a member of the Masonic Lodge in Texas.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his son Charles "Chuckie" Johnston on September 21, 1971.

Survivors include his wife, Bonnie Bell Johnston whom he married in 2005; daughters, Paulette Crabtree (Harold) of Gastonia, Brenda Sheley (Miguel) of Tulsa, OK; step-daughter, Amber Bell of Brooklyn, NY; Goddaughter, Amber Black of Tulsa, OK; grandchildren, Amanda, Billy, Charity, Keena, Paul, and Pooh; 8 great grandchildren: and a nephew Mark Rice of San Antonio, TX .

A graveside service will be conducted 1:00 PM - Friday (Dec. 24) at Hollywood Cemetery, N. Broad St. Gastonia, NC.

Memorials may be made to Faithful Friends No Kill Animal Shelter, PO Box 3097, Salisbury, NC 28145

Special thanks are given to everyone at Carolina Oncology, especially Dr. Bill Black, physician and friend.

# Tribute Wall



“ Bonnie,  
*I am truly sorry for your loss, Frank was a very special person. I never remember a day that he didn't make me laugh. We had way to much fun at work. I hope you find comfort in the memories of the time you spent together in the coming days. Anybody that really knew him realized what a big hearted guy great guy he really was.*###imported-begin##Cheryl Reid###imported-end##

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December 23, 2010 at 08:13 PM



“ Bonnie & Family,  
*I am sorry for your loss. We will be praying for you in the coming days & weeks.*  
*Sincerely,*  
*Gary & Jan Chestnut & Family*###imported-begin##Gary & Jan Chestnut###imported-end##

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December 23, 2010 at 07:54 PM



“ Amber, Brian and Family,  
*We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to you at this difficult time. Please know that our love and prayers are with you.*  
*Aunt Sue and Uncle Mal*###imported-begin##Sue and Mal Mack###imported-end##

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December 22, 2010 at 04:40 PM