



Mrs. Phyllis Alice Bragdon Johnson

February 21, 1951 - June 8, 2021

Phyllis Alice Bragdon Johnson was born in Fort Lauderdale, Florida on February 21, 1951. She answered her divine summons at 3:56 p.m. on Tuesday, June 8, 2021 surrounded by her family at Regional One Health Medical Center in Memphis, Tennessee.

Phyllis embraced her origins steeped in a deeply rich culture of pioneers, visionaries, and community activists. Her mother, the late Frema Bragdon, the family historian, was the daughter of the late Rev. Henry Pleamon Bragdon, Sr. He built the first structure for Mt. Olive Baptist Church in 1923, led the eight original members through tremendous challenges, and grew the membership to 500 by 1930.

Phyllis' father, the late Oscar Wells, served his country during the Korean War, and later became a gifted Artisan. He was the son of the late Rev. O.W. Wells who shepherded Mt. Olive through the Depression, World War II, and continuous growth.

After accepting Christ as her personal savior at the age of 9, Phyllis was baptized under the pastorage of her great, great uncle, the late Rev. Robert H. Lee. She sang in

the Choir, was

active in Bible training classes, and learned hundreds of scriptures. Her exceptional oratorical skills were honed under the tutelage of Mrs. W.F. Morton. She committed to an abiding faith in God.

In 1955 was a pivotal year in America. The Big Five: Gail, Don, Greg, Brenda, and Phyllis received a powerful lesson from Aunt Pat who was only 14 years old, just like Emmett Till. With her Mother's permission, she showed them the Jet Magazine and told them what happened to him.

In 1959 (Gail had moved to Ohio a few years earlier), Don marched them downtown to the segregated lunch counter, they sat down and placed an order. They were always served and were not afraid or intimidated. Phyllis found ways to overcome injustices, inequalities, and kept chains off her mind. And a little child shall lead them.

Phyllis was a child full of joy and wonder. She enjoyed her naps. Her smiles and bright eyes would light up the household. She fostered many friendships. As an adult she still took her power naps and delighted in many lasting friendships.

Education was paramount in the Bragdon household. Phyllis attended Ruby Watson Nursery, Walker Elementary, North Fork Elementary, Everglades Jr. High, Dillard High and graduated from Stranahan High School in 1969.

The arrival of "Miss Alice in Wonderland" caused a little stir in Paducah, Kentucky and opened pivotal doors. She thrived in the well-structured professional setting at West Kentucky Vocational College. For relaxation, she played Table Tennis which had always been one of her joys and no one could beat her. Her skills and movements were a wonder to behold.

Ask Danny Johnson how he met Phyllis. It was a wrap. Can you hear wedding bells? When Danny and Phyllis finally joined in Holy Matrimony, they formed an abiding union. They were grateful for their one and only son, Shaun P. Johnson, a deeply beloved treasure.

Henderson, Tennessee became "home" for Phyllis for almost fifty years. Danny's parents, family, and enchanted community welcomed her. The compassion, understanding, and pace reminded her of the close-knit village that Ft. Lauderdale of her early childhood had been.

When she visited "the Venice of America", she dipped in the Atlantic Ocean, feasted on mangoes, sea grapes, jelly coconuts, and enjoyed her family and friends, but she found her purpose, her bliss, and the love of her life in Henderson. To God be the glory! Phyllis joined Beech Springs Baptist Church in Jacks Creek, where she was a beloved active member, and, for many years, Phyllis worked at Grinnell as an accounts payable clerk. She received many accolades and awards.

When Shaun and Pamela married, the two women formed an unbreakable bond like Naomi and Ruth. Your God will be my God. She cherished her two grandchildren, Ebony and Aaron, and emulated her gifted, wise grandmother. She continued to pass on principles based on an abiding love for God, yourself and others. Her legacy to her great grandchildren was to teach them that they are chosen branches that need to stay connected to the true "vine".

Danny and Phyllis partnered with a few national organizations. For fifteen

years, they supported and worked with DOMES to build vibrant communities, to remove barriers to well-being, and to promote mental health. Even through years of chronic illnesses and Danny's tireless dedication in taking care of his wife, Phyllis and her niece Karma, daughter of her deceased brother, Gary Bragdon, gathered items to launch DHBLISS division of DOMES (Doreatha Hankerson Bragdon Legacy Implementing Synergistic Solutions).

Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you. Matthew 6:33. When Danny and Phyllis joined Kingdom Builders Christian Center Church (Pastor V. R. Brice), they committed to their Redeemer's Kingdom mandate. Phyllis loved her church family, and always reminded them that, "All is well".

Our precious Phyllis, as a child of the most High, full of love, light, forgiveness & so much more, we celebrate your impact, influence and seven decades of God's eternal breath. What a phenomenally sublime woman of substance!

You fought a good fight; you finished your course. To God be the Glory. Surely, he has borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows... (Isaiah 53:4)

Phyllis leaves to cherish her life and memories: anointed husband, Danny Alan Johnson; son, Shaun P. Johnson (Pamela); granddaughter, Ebony Black (Donta); grandson, Aaron Johnson (Ashley); great grandchildren, Jaiydan, Lauren, Eli; Father-in-law, Frank Johnson; Mother-in-law, Classie Johnson; Sisters-in-law, Cassandra Boyle (Lee), Kimberly Phelps (Billy), Donna Welch (James), Marcia Taylor (James); Brothers-in-law, Freddie Johnson (Edna), Jackie Johnson (Velma), Perry Johnson (Kelia); Aunts, Dorothy Wood, Patsy Barnes, Brenda Dooling, Sandra Bragdon; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, extended family, friends and loved ones.

To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven.
Ecclesiastes 3:1

Cemetery Details

Trices Chapel Cemetery

Henderson, TN

Previous Events

Family Hour

JUN 19. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Estes Church Of Christ
3505 US-45,
Henderson , TN 38340

Service

JUN 19. 11:00 AM (CT)

Estes Church Of Christ
3505 US-45,
Henderson , TN 38340

Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Phyllis Alice Bragdon Johnson*

January 28, 2023 at 12:37 PM



“ *Mrs. Phyllis was a great supporter of my family group Eddie Campbell Jr. & the Campbell sisters. She would always encourage us with love. We will miss you and may God strengthen your family and friends.*

Carol Campbell-Forrest

Carol Campbell-Forrest - June 19, 2021 at 10:07 PM



“ *Patricia Aikens Barnes lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Phyllis Alice Bragdon Johnson*



patricia aikens barnes - June 19, 2021 at 07:30 PM



“ *Condolence Snacks was purchased for the family of Mrs. Phyllis Alice Bragdon Johnson.*



June 18, 2021 at 06:37 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Mrs. Phyllis Alice Bragdon Johnson.*



June 17, 2021 at 12:13 PM



“ *My sweet Auntie you're a eternally gift, an abundant honor, a privilege to have bestowed to me. Thank you for being you to me.*



Karma Bragdon - June 16, 2021 at 05:56 PM



“ *Rose Garden Heart was purchased for the family of Mrs. Phyllis Alice Bragdon Johnson.*



June 16, 2021 at 05:48 PM



“ *Velma Johnson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Phyllis Alice Bragdon Johnson*



Velma Johnson - June 16, 2021 at 04:19 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mrs. Phyllis Alice Bragdon Johnson.*



June 16, 2021 at 01:04 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mrs. Phyllis Alice Bragdon Johnson.*



June 15, 2021 at 06:38 PM



“ *Sending Love and Prayers to The Family!*

Tilda Pearson - June 15, 2021 at 11:56 AM



“ *Only person made me feel like I could cook. Lol. And sing. I will always love you. Well is All*

Tabitha Brice - June 13, 2021 at 02:35 PM



*Sending love to the Bragdon/Johnson families, and asking God to strengthen and comfort each of you throughout the healing process.
Love Always,
Ross and Evelyn Grooms*

Evelyn Carter Grooms - June 16, 2021 at 10:11 PM

GD

“ *Sending love and prayers to the Johnson family. Mrs. Phyllis was a sweet lady! My sincere condolences for the family.*



Gloria Davis - June 13, 2021 at 02:12 PM

LC

“ *Words can't express how saddened I am by the loss of Phyllis. She was such a kind person. Today and always, may loving memories bring you peace, comfort and strength. I love you all! ~ Cre*



Lacretia Croom - June 13, 2021 at 01:41 PM

KJ

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends. Sending love and hugs. s*

Kimberly Jones - June 13, 2021 at 01:37 PM

DH

“ *Dorran Howard lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Phyllis Alice Bragdon Johnson*



Dorran Howard - June 13, 2021 at 01:32 PM

MH

“ *Light a candle for my loving sister love love for all eternity*



Mattie Hickman - June 13, 2021 at 09:56 AM

ES

“ *May you find grace, peace and comfort in the precious memories that live within you of Mrs . Phyllis Johnson. God bless you all Elder D. Sanders-Bass*

Elder Dorthy Sanders-Bass - June 12, 2021 at 11:52 PM

ES

“ *Elder Dorthy Sanders-Bass lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Phyllis Alice Bragdon Johnson*



Elder Dorthy Sanders-Bass - June 12, 2021 at 11:50 PM

CC

“ *Cordelia Chism lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Phyllis Alice Bragdon Johnson*



Cordelia Chism - June 12, 2021 at 06:43 PM

FH

“ Praying for comfort and peace for Danny, Shaun, and the Johnson Family. 🙏



Felenceo Marshea Hill - June 11, 2021 at 12:40 PM

AM

“ Sending prayers, love, & condolences to the Johnson family. Danny, Shaun, Pam, Eboni, Aaron and the great grands.



Alicia Croom McDowell - June 11, 2021 at 07:30 AM

NH

“ You always had a smile on your face to brighten each day. You were such a beautiful soul.



Normecia Hollingsworth - June 10, 2021 at 11:55 PM

LJ

“ Lisa Jones lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Phyllis Alice Bragdon Johnson



Lisa jones - June 10, 2021 at 03:13 PM

TP

“ *To be Absent from the Body is to be Present & now resting with the Lord. Take your Rest you were always a adorable soul to me* ❤️



Tometheal Polk - June 10, 2021 at 01:03 PM

TB

“ *Teresa. Boyd lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Phyllis Alice Bragdon Johnson*



Teresa. Boyd - June 10, 2021 at 11:30 AM

KJ

“ *All is well... take your rest love you sister-in-law*

kelia johnson - June 09, 2021 at 10:09 PM

LI

“ *Lyndia Ingram lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Phyllis Alice Bragdon Johnson*



Lyndia Ingram - June 09, 2021 at 03:26 PM