



## Linda C. Johnson

August 24, 1947 - January 13, 2026

Linda Johnson, 78, of Abingdon, went to be with her Lord and Savior on Tuesday, January 13, 2026, at OSF St. Francis Medical Center in Peoria. She was born August 24, 1947, in Olney, IL to Julius James and Grace Marie (Crawley) Johnson; they both preceded her in death.

She grew up in and around Grayville, IL, graduating from Grayville High School in 1965. She then graduated from Wabash Valley College in 1967 and Southern Illinois University in 1969.

She moved to Abingdon in 1969 to teach 5th Grade Science at Hedding Grade School, retiring in 2002.

Linda was a Girl Scout leader, girls softball coach, and soccer coach. She volunteered with the American Red Cross and Kcap. In 1976, she became a foster parent, caring for over 200 children through 2010, loving every one of them.

As a volunteer with Southern Baptist Missions, she spent six summers serving different communities.

She was an active member of Bethel Baptist Church in Galesburg, where she taught Sunday School, Awana, and Vacation Bible School. She was also involved with Mom 2 Mom and other ministry teams.

Linda is survived by 3 sons, Noah (Christina) Johnson of Spaulding, Michael Smith of Abingdon, Jared Joy of Abingdon, and Kelli Smith of Peoria; 2 sisters, Wilma and Glenda of Texas; and 7 grandchildren, including 4 fantastic and wonderful granddaughters, Marissa, Lakin, Kinley, and Brielle Johnson

and 3 amazing grandsons, Chris, Sam and Jeremiah.

A memorial service will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, January 23, 2026, at Bethel Baptist Church in Galesburg. Pastor Lee Johnson will officiate. Private burial will be at a later date. Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services is assisting the family.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Bethel Baptist Church Camp Scholarship. Online condolences may be left at [www.GaryDeitersFH.com](http://www.GaryDeitersFH.com).

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JAN **23**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Bethel Baptist Church  
1196 N. Academy St.  
Galesburg, IL 61401

# Tribute Wall

PH

“ Linda was my Awana leader at Bethel. She had been a huge part of my life. She really helped me through a lot of things. She was really sweet and I always enjoyed her messages on Facebook. Rip Linda you will be missed. -Pacie Henry (maiden name Pacie Hook)



pacie henry - June 25 at 06:47 PM

CW

“ Chris Wiseman sent a virtual gift in memory of Linda C. Johnson



Chris Wiseman - January 19 at 06:16 PM

CW

“ Chris Wiseman lit a candle in memory of Linda C. Johnson



Chris Wiseman - January 19 at 06:14 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Linda C. Johnson.



January 19 at 02:25 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Linda C. Johnson.



January 19 at 09:21 AM



Preston White

“ Linda (mom) was always there for her children she had taken care , regardless of still living with her. She will be greatly missed.

Preston White - January 19 at 06:35 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Linda C. Johnson.



January 18 at 04:25 PM



WK

“ Wilma Kelley planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Linda C. Johnson.

Wilma Kelley - January 18 at 04:25 PM

CF

“ *Crafts, Evans & Schemmer Families purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Linda C. Johnson.*



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**Crafts, Evans & Schemmer Families** - January 16 at 02:45 PM