

### Final Harvest

He was bound to the land from the day of his birth  
His roots anchored deep in the fertile earth  
Nurtured, sustained, by the soil he grew  
And his life, like his furrows, ran straight and true.

In faith, each spring, he planted the seeds  
In hope, to reap his family's needs  
With patience, he waited for the harvest to come to  
gather the fruits of his labor home.

Ever turning the seasons, the years sped past  
Till the final harvest came at last  
Then claimed anew by beloved sod  
He was gathered home to be with God.

Barbara W. Weber



'God saw he was getting tired,  
and a cure was not to be,  
So He put his arms around him  
and whispered, "Come with Me,"  
With tearful eyes, we watched  
him suffer and saw him fade away  
Although we loved him dearly,  
we could not make him stay.  
His golden heart stopped beating,  
hard working hands to rest.  
God broke our hearts to prove to us  
He only takes the best.'



*In Loving Memory Of*



***Johnnie Cecil Johnston***

*September 1, 1924*

*January 4, 2018*



# Johnnie Cecil Johnston

## Born

September 1, 1924 ~ Central City, NE

## Died

January 4, 2018 ~ Poplar, MT

## Funeral Services

2:00 P.M. Friday, January 12, 2018

Christian Missionary Alliance Church

Richey, Montana

## Officiating

Pastor Paul Sponheim

## Music

Jon Buller, Jon Hrabes

Sr. Rita and Gary Kauschendorfer

Charlie Jo Hoffman, Tom Fatzinger

Cynthia and Stephanie Schultz

## Casketbearers:

Connie Aasheim Peggy Vaira

Gary Johnston Larry Johnston

Kevin Johnston Kyle Johnston

## Honorary Casketbearers

All of Johnnie's grandchildren

and great grandchildren

## Ushers

Jerry Hoffman David Vaira

Marlin Johnston Joe Servais

## Interment of Cremains

Will be in the Grandview Cemetery

at a later date.

Lunch will be served in the church  
basement following services

You may share your remembrances, condolences, and pictures  
with the family at the Fulkerson-Stevenson Funeral Home  
Website: [www.fulkersons.com](http://www.fulkersons.com)

Johnnie Johnston passed away at his home surrounded by his family on January 4, 2018. Johnnie was diagnosed with kidney cancer on November 20.

Johnnie Cecil Johnston was born in Central City, NE September 1, 1924 to Cecil and Katie Knels Johnston. At the age of five in 1929, Johnnie and his family arrived in Lambert on the immigrant train and established a home on the Retah Table area. Years later the family moved Northwest of Richey. Johnnie was needed on the family farm so quit school when he was a freshman.

Johnnie and Beverly (Gidley) Johnston were married on May 23, 1947, a day after Beverly graduated from High School. To this marriage six children enhanced their lives. Johnnie and Beverly have lived North of Richey since 1949.

Johnnie served on the Grandview School Board in his early years where his four oldest children attended grade school. He wanted his children to get a good education, for 21 days during the winter of 1966 Johnnie took the four older kids on his John Deere tractor 9 miles to meet the school bus using the blade on the tractor to clear the road as he drove. After school he repeated the trip to collect his kids.

The Richland County Weed Board was very dear to Johnnie. He served on the Board from 1959 to 2017. He was very active fighting the weeds. Johnnie received Weed Fighter of the year several times and was proud of the awards. He was the oldest member in Montana. Johnnie served on the Farmers Elevator Board in Richey for many years.

Johnnie worked hard all of his life and expected the same from others. He also liked to have fun. Johnnie & Beverly enjoyed taking trips with friends and relatives. Trips were taken to Hawaii, Mexico, and a Caribbean Cruise. The kids remember having fun times at Saco Hot Springs swimming when growing up.

Johnnie saw big farm changes in his life from farming with horses to the big modern machinery. He loved swathing hay and harvest time. He also

enjoyed feeding and tending to his cows or as he referred to them, his girls. They followed him like puppies and he loved that.

Johnnie never met a stranger, he considered everyone he met to be his friend. He loved visiting with everyone often stopping them on his beloved John Deere Gator as he traveled locally. His Gator was another love, at times the back was filled with fencing supplies, feed for the cows or the spray container to spray the dreaded weeds as he drove along the country with his spurge glasses. Pheasants in the yard were always fed well during the winter months by Johnnie.

Pets were dear to Johnnie, he took in many dogs whose owners (his kids) couldn't take care of them in town anymore. He could be seen with a dog in his pickup or Gator most of the time. His latest stray was a cat named Keven who was always getting in his way but Johnnie was always ready to pull his tail or scratch his ears in a loving way. Keven wanted to be with Johnnie in a chair or on his bed during the last couple weeks.

Grandchildren and great grandchildren were very important to Grandpa Johnnie and Grandpa Great, he loved their phone calls and visits. He loved to tease them and they teased right back.

Johnnie is survived by: his wife, Beverly; his children, Gary (Virginia), Larry (Connie), Connie Aasheim, Peggy (David) Vaira, Kevin (Shelly), Kyle (Tammy); 19 grandchildren, Erin Ballard, Bob, Cory, Shane, Lori Langley, Kari Wong, Angie Candee, Heidi Vanlaningham, J.D. Aasheim, Ryan Aasheim, Jolene Geary, Jodi McWilliams, Jeff Vaira, Janell Monroe, Kacey, Meghan, Lexi, Hailey and Ben; 36 great grandchildren and another due in March; brother, Ruben; sister, Ella Anderson; numerous nieces and nephews; numerous great nieces and great nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Cecil and Katie Johnston, daughter-in-law, Janet Johnston, great grandson, Tyler Langley; son-in-law, Daniel Aasheim; brothers Lawrence, Eugene, Dave; sisters Marjorie Ziegler, Helen Hoffman, Mary Johnston; and half-sister Ruth Cooper.