



Wilma Johnson

September 7, 1931 - March 2, 2013

Wilma Kae (Gibbs, Nellis) Johnson, 81, passed away on Saturday, March 2, 2013 in Fort Myers, Florida.

Wilma was born September 7, 1931 in Evansville, Indiana; her parents were Gretna Gibbs and William Prentice. She was later adopted by Joseph Nellis and raised by he and Gretna in Dayton, Ohio. She attended the Ohio State School for the Blind, graduating in 1950. After graduation, she entered the Sisters of the Lamb of God, serving as Sister Mary Phillip in Brest, France.

Wilma left the convent to return to Dayton to work in the Ohio Food Stand Program at various locations, including the US Post Office downtown. Her efforts with this program lead her to Canton, Ohio in 1961; here she became affiliated with The Philomatheon Society for the Blind where she met her husband, Walter Johnson, whom she married on September 8, 1962. Wilma worked at the Society's workshop, as well as food stands at Downtown Motors and outside of the Timken Company.

Wilma also served as a board member on Canton's Regional Transit Authority and was active with the Cincinnati Transit Authority after moving there in 1989 to take a job as a collator in the bindery at The Clovernook Printing House for the Blind. She retired from Clovernook in 2001.

In February 2004, she moved to Fort Myers, Florida. She was a member of the local chapter of the Florida Council for the Blind and Lighthouse of Southwest Florida.

Wilma was a longstanding member of the American Council for the Blind and attended many conventions throughout the years.

Wilma's life was filled with variety, which included raising canaries; having a family; cruises; learning about the latest technology for the visually impaired; baking bread and being an avid reader.

Her death is preceded by her husband, Walter. She is survived by brother John Newman of Lima, Ohio; sister Janine Nellis of Tampa, Florida; and three children, Wilietta Johnson Uhler of Wooster, Ohio; Wayne Johnson of Cincinnati and granddaughter Jessica Johnson; and Wanda Kae Johnson and grandchildren, Gigi Bush, Samantha Bush, and Maxwell Johnson.

A gathering will be held at the Philomatheon Society for the Blind, 2701 West Tuscarawas Street, Canton, OH 44708 on Saturday, March 23, 2013 from 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM.

As selfishness and complaint
pervert the mind, so love with its joy clears and
sharpens the vision.

~Helen Keller~

Tribute Wall



“ *Wilma Johnson*

October 09, 2023 at 02:01 AM



“ *Wilma Johnson*

January 28, 2023 at 12:09 PM



“ *Thank you guys for including me, I haven't forgotten any of you.
Wish I could've been there to spend more time with her.*

Jessica Johnson - May 22, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ *Will miss hearing from Wilma when calling to schedule her rides
with us. She always said she was "fat & sassy like always" when
asked how she was! Was lovely talking to her! She will be missed.*

Rachel - March 11, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ *This dear, lovely woman will not be forgotten!
Her wonderful, lighthearted, and heartwarming words of encouragement and "much needed" laughter in my times of missing my own mother, who passed away in 2011, were like a tonic to me on many occasions.
She was courageous, and an inspiration to me.
She "SAW" the world in a way I did not, being visually impaired, I admired her on many levels, she raised a family and did many things that most women only dream of doing.
Nothing bothered her or stopped her when she decided to get something done.
She was my Florida Mother and I will always love and miss her!!!
Good Bye to a wonderful friend.
With Love,
Cathy*

Cathy Stahl - March 07, 2013 at 12:00 AM

GB

“ *May peace be with Wilma and her family as she continues her journey. Gigi and Samantha will miss their Grandmother but are thankful they were able to say goodbye and be with family during these tough times. God bless*

Gordon Bush - March 07, 2013 at 12:00 AM