

**James “Frenchy” Johnson**  
January 12, 1947 - April 5, 2023

James R. Johnson a.k.a. “Frenchy” or “Jimmy”, 76, of Powell, was called home to be with the Lord on April 5, 2023, with family by his side.

Jimmy was born on January 12, 1947, to Cyprien and Marice Pitre Johnson in Eunice, Louisiana. Jimmy knew all about hard work from a young age. Jimmy learned his work ethic by holding onto his mom’s dress while working alongside her in the cotton fields and when working for a local grocery store. As a young man and into his late 20’s, Jimmy worked in the construction and pipeline industries. Jimmy was one to tell tall tales and entertain his company. His laugh was contagious, and his smile always brightened the room. Jimmy was always an outgoing person, from a very young age, he was much like his own dad; always looking for a good time with music and dancing with beautiful women.

Jimmy left home in the early 70’s, heading west to Wyoming where he worked miscellaneous jobs until beginning his career in the oil field. Jimmy, the French speaking Cajun, from Louisiana quickly became known as Frenchy around his community in Wyoming.

After moving to Wyoming, Frenchy met and married his late wife Diane McGrath, whom he lost to cancer after 30 years of marriage, in 2004. After losing Diane, Frenchy never thought he would find love again until he ran into his longtime neighbor, Kelly Hatch, and he was blindsided by love once again. Frenchy and Kelly were united in marriage on December 11, 2005, at the Glad Tidings Assembly of God church. Frenchy was proud to have the Assembly of God as his home church. Frenchy welcomed Kelly’s two daughters Elizabeth and Laura as his own when he married her. Frenchy was proud of all of his children.

Frenchy brought some of his Louisiana/Cajun culture with him when he moved to Wyoming. He enjoyed cooking and sharing recipes with new friends. Frenchy found himself unable to quit working after retirement, so he found himself plowing parking lots while driving his bright orange Kubota with his flags flying in the wind. Frenchy could often be found fixing up his house or collecting old cars. Frenchy found joy delivering his fresh baked banana bread or donuts around to the hospital, care center, police station, fire department, etc. to thank them for the services they provide to our community and to him personally. He enjoyed inviting friends and family over for a big bowl of Gumbo. Frenchy was truly a man who would give you the shirt of his back if you needed one.

Frenchy is preceded in death by his parents, wife Diane, brothers; JD, Lawrence, Marcelle; sisters; Mary Lou and LouAnna, and the mother of his children, Linda.

Frenchy is survived by his wife Kelly; his sons Dominic (Angie) Johnson of Eunice, Louisiana and Ronald Johnson of Eunice, Louisiana; his daughters Mary (Robert) Sheppard of Lafayette, Louisiana, Elizabeth (Brian) Zitting of Powell, and Laura (AJ) Billiu of Powell; his brother Johnny (Lola) Johnson of Eunice, Louisiana; sister Bertha (Joe) Janice; 5 grandchildren; and 2 great grandchildren.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS ENTRUSTED TO  
THOMPSON’S FUNERAL HOME POWELL, WYOMING

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*In Loving Memory*  
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January 12, 1947 - April 5, 2023



## A Celebration of Life

### James "Frenchy" Johnson

January 12, 1947 - Eunice, Louisiana

April 5, 2023 - Powell, Wyoming

#### Funeral Services

April 12, 2023

Glad Tidings Church

2:00 PM

Officiating - Pastor Mike Walsh

#### Order of Service

Opening Prayer - Pastor Mike

Scripture Reading - Psalm 23rd - Sandy Hatch

Musical Number - Congregation

*"Give Me Jesus"*

Obituary Reading - Elizabeth Zitting

Slideshow - Melissa Holso

Open Sharing

Musical Number - vocalist Laura Billiu and Sara Clausen

*"I Can Only Imagine"*

Message - Pastor Mike

Musical Number

*"Old Rugged Cross"*

#### Pallbearers

Aj Billiu

David Hatch

Dale Peterson

Chuck Keele

Travis Lejeune

Pail Bergamini

#### Honorary Pallbearers

The Louisiana Johnson's

#### Interment

Crown Hill Cemetery

Powell Wyoming

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:

He leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul:

He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil:

for thou art with me;

Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:

Thou anointest my head with oil;

my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:

And I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

- Psalm 23rd