



## Edmund E. Johnson Jr.

October 23, 1929 - December 23, 2013

Rye Beach - Edmund Eugene Johnson, Jr., 84, of Rye Beach, died at home surrounded by his loving family on Monday, December 23, after a full and generous life and a long struggle with breast cancer. He was born on October 23, 1929 in Cambridge, MA. He and his younger sister, Torvy, grew up as first generation Americans with a strong sense of country and a firm understanding of the responsibilities of being good citizens. Hard, honest work, love of neighbor and the reliance on one's own abilities were values instilled in them during the difficult years of early childhood. No excuses. Life is what you make it.

Using this ethic earned Ed the rank of Eagle Scout and then entrance to Tufts University and a coveted place on the football team. Despite his comparatively short stature no one wanted to be found staring at the team captain across the line of scrimmage. Ed was also known for his capabilities on the wrestling team, heavyweight division. After graduation he joined the Marine Corps. He continued to excel at football and contributed to the team at Quantico before serving a tour of duty in Korea as a Marine Infantry Captain. A Silver Star and a Navy commendation recognized his selfless and devoted service to country and comrade. To many, he was ever after known as Captain Ed.

Following Korea, and after returning to Tufts to complete a Master of Educational Administration degree, Ed married his sweetheart, Anne

Patterson, beginning 57 happy years together. He worked for such fine firms as Nashua Corporation and United Shoe Machinery as Vice President of Human Resources. He was a strong competitor, representing these companies in labor negotiations, and was once told by a union officer, "I must tell you that you are not well liked, but you are respected."

In spite of long hours at his career, Ed's first love was always family. He and Anne raised three precious girls: Janice, Susan and Carole, who, along with their own families, remained his great joy. Family gatherings were times of sharing, laughter and reminiscing, with Ed reveling in his role as family patriarch.

Ed always had projects and activities both to challenge him and make the world a better place. He was several times the New Hampshire Handgun Sharpshooter Champion, and was on the Hollis, NH police force serving as a Lieutenant Weapons Instructor. He taught hunter safety to children and found great joy in helping young minds learn. Ed was a member of St. John's Lodge AF&AM, and remained an active Mason for over 50 years, achieving Master Mason. Ed was honored to be named Marine of the Year in 2007 and 2008 and was called to the Oval Office to receive a commendation from President Bush for his leadership role in founding the Pease Greeters. Ed served as president of this organization and grew participation dramatically during his five year tenure. In his typical, positive approach to life, Ed responded to his own medical diagnosis by doing his part to spread the word about breast cancer, especially in men. "Mr. Breast Cancer" came to us as "November" in the 2011 Breast Cancer Support calendar. With true comedic flare, he even participated in a fundraiser/awareness fashion show as the only male model.

As anyone who has been welcomed to their home can attest, Ed and Anne loved to work together in their yard, meticulously creating various types of gardens, stone walls, pathways, and hedges. Their large lawn and diverse

landscape brought many hours of pleasure – both in the creation and in the ever-evolving result.

Ed is survived by his wife, Anne, and three daughters: Janice Johnson and her daughter, Brittany Welton; Susan Beaman and spouse, John, and daughters, Lauren Ward and spouse, Dustin, and Gwen Beaman; and Carole Johnson and spouse, Carol Murray; his sister, Torvy Hurd and spouse, Albert, and their two sons, Jonathan Hurd and spouse, Tracy, and children, Roger Hurd and Keely Hurd; and Christopher Hurd and spouse, Erica, and daughter, Amelia Hurd.

Captain Ed, we will miss you dearly. You have indelibly shaped our lives with courage, excellence and love, and we are all better for it.

SEMPER FI!

Visiting hours will be from 2 – 4 and 6 – 8 PM with Masonic services to be held at 7:30 on Sunday, December 29, 2013 in the Remick & Gendron Funeral Home – Crematory, 811 Lafayette Rd., Hampton. A Celebration of Life will be held at 11 AM on Monday, December 30 at the United Church of Christ, 295 Atlantic Ave., North Hampton, with full military honors immediately following the service. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited. Burial will be at a later date in the NH State Veterans Cemetery in Boscawen. In lieu of flowers and at Ed's request, donations may be mailed to My Breast Cancer Support, PO Box 1576, Portsmouth, NH 03802 or made online at [www.mybreastcancersupport.org/support/donate.htm](http://www.mybreastcancersupport.org/support/donate.htm).

# Cemetery Details

## New Hampshire State Veterans Cemetery

110 Daniel Webster Highway  
Boscawen, NH 03303

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC **29**. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Remick & Gendron Funeral Home - Crematory  
811 Lafayette Road ·  
Hampton, NH 03842  
(603) 926-6500  
info@remickgendron.com  
<https://www.RemickGendron.com/>

## Visitation

DEC **29**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Remick & Gendron Funeral Home - Crematory  
811 Lafayette Road ·  
Hampton, NH 03842  
(603) 926-6500  
info@remickgendron.com  
<https://www.RemickGendron.com/>

## Service

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DEC 30. 11:00 AM (ET)

United Church of Christ  
295 Atlantic Avenue  
North Hampton, NH 03862

# Tribute Wall



“ *Edmund E. Johnson Jr.*

September 18, 2022 at 12:49 AM



“ *Ed attended my Mom's wake in 1967. He pulled me aside and said Nashua Corp hires summer help for us college kids. I took him up on it and made a career there for 40 yrs. from that summer job to I.T. director in 2004.,,, thanks to him.*

**Dick Brodeur** - April 11, 2016 at 05:10 PM



“ *I do not have adequate words to express my admiration and appreciation for who and what Captain Ed was. Always a true gentleman and inspiring leader, I will always remember him fondly and with appreciation. I thank his family for sharing him with the Pease Greeters so many days and nights, when the flights came in at all hours.*

*To Ed's family, I send my sincere condolences on your great loss.  
You are in my prayers.*

*Love, honor and respect,*

*Inge Houck  
Pease Greeter  
Dover, NH*

**Inge Houck** - January 09, 2014 at 08:33 AM

“Admiration:

*I have had a heavy heart since being told of my Uncle Ed's passing on December 23, 2013. My Uncle Ed lost his courageous battle with breast cancer. Shortly after my mother died in early 2005 I read the following that gave me some comfort:*

*Life is made up many moments, death is but only one of them*

*It is with great admiration for my uncle and the way he lived his life that I tell you that he filled his life with many moments for many people. His life was made up of moments of courage, of encouragement of others, of caring for others, of achievement, of service to country & his fellow man, and of love. It is rare that a man is diagnosed with breast cancer; it is rarer still that he meets such a diagnoses and thinks and acts in ways to help serve others. This is the man my uncle Ed was and the legacy he leaves his wife Anne, daughters Janice, Carole, and Susan, his grandchildren, and the many of us who were fortunate enough to know him.*

*When my mother became terminally ill and could not care for herself, I sought help from my Aunt Ann and Uncle Ed. Their help for my mom and me was immediate, supporting me and offering me advice and counsel as I made critical decisions about my mother's care, and supported me through funeral arrangements. There were many e-mail communications and telephone calls. My uncle Ed printed out every e-mail and put them in a binder for me. He recognized I had been through a lot, and I was hurting, and this gesture would mean a lot to me, not just on day he gave me binder but later. The day my Uncle Ed gave me that document I told him my mother had been teaching me, preparing me for life her whole life, and that even in death she taught me again, she taught me I could confront any challenge, and that this was her last lesson for me. He encouraged me on that thought process only like Marine Corps Combat Veteran could. He told me in life he too had had his doublets about meeting challenges, then he found himself in Korean*

*in combat confronted with his death and potentially the death of the men he was leading, and he made some very critical decisions very quickly that allowed him and the men he commanded to survive. It is rare when a combat veteran shares an experience like that with anyone, I cherish that moment my uncle chose to share with me that day. I believe my uncle shared that experience with me because he knew I was still hurting very much and wanted to let me know I would make my way through my grief.*

*When my Grandma Sadie Patterson (my Mother and Aunt Ann's mom) died, it was my Uncle Ed that delivered the eulogy for his mother in-law. I do not remember the words he said, as I was a lot younger then, but I remember very clearly when his voice broke with emotion. You see when my Uncle Ed as accomplished as he was, a Tufts graduate with a Master's Degree, Decorated Marine Corp Combat Veteran and accomplished business executive was humbled and felt the emotion of the moment as he recounted the many challenges his mother law faced as a Scottish Immigrant who lost her husband when he was young and had to raise five children on her own.*

*I am humbled by the life he lead, by his wisdom, caring, and service to others. Uncle Ed, you lead an exemplary and noble life those of us who were fortunate to have shared a moment with you were left much the better for it.*

*With Love and Admiration, David A. Collins*

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**David A Collins** - January 03, 2014 at 12:08 AM

MB

“ We have lost a true American hero. He was such a good person and really liked people. He was a Marine and he loved that and it was always a part of his life. He played football for Quantico and knew how to be a team player. Ed was always willing to listen to his friends and would give advise and help all who asked. His family was so important to him and I hope each family member knows how much he loved you. I will always remember him. Ed has left a footprint on my heart and I will always try to live up to his values. Forever in my heart and forever missed.

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**Mary Jane Blunda** - December 30, 2013 at 04:57 PM

LG

“ So sorry for your loss, Brittany; thinking of you at this difficult time. I'm glad to see that your grandfather had such a full and active life. -  
- Laura Green

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**Laura Green** - December 30, 2013 at 12:24 PM

DC

“ A loss to all who ever met my Uncle Ed, a man beyond a man, a man that I would be lucky to be a tenth of.  
My deepest sentiments to Aunt Anne, cousins Janice, Susan and Carol.

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**Duane Collins** - December 30, 2013 at 08:44 AM

GS

“ Geri Scullion lit a candle in memory of  
Edmund E. Johnson Jr.



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**Geri Scullion** - December 28, 2013 at 06:47 PM

DL

“ *Ed Johnson was an individual who left his mark on mankind. Wherever he went and whatever he did, he stood proud and always did things to the best of his ability. He was one of the founders of the Pease Greeters and his commitment to them was incredible. He attended more consecutive flights and participated in their ceremonies more than anybody. That record will stand forever. He was charismatic and seeming knew everybody, it was a pleasure to be around him.. His work there was an example of what a labor of love should be, he wrote a personal thank you note to every generous person and company that supported the "Greeters". His leadership capabilities were second to none. He was a professional first and foremost choosing his words meticulously regardless of whom he was speaking to i.e. the President, press or a potential Pease Greeter. Everybody he dealt with was treated with dignity and respect, those blue eyes were always focused on the individual(s) he spoke to.*

*Brenda and I send our heartfelt condolences to the Johnson Family. Thank you to Anne and family for sharing Captain Ed with us. We will miss him terribly and remember him for eternity.*

*Very Respectfully  
Dennis E. Lauze*

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**Dennis Lauze** - December 28, 2013 at 12:49 PM

JB

“ *i am a brother mason and had the pleasure of seeing ed receive his 50th veterans medal presentation along with his family recently. it was not only a pleasure but an honor to know him and his good deeds. please accept our profoundest sympathy! joe & ginny bigwood weare, nh.*

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**joe bigwood** - December 28, 2013 at 09:30 AM

DF

“ *My thoughts and prayers go out to Ed and his family. He was a gentleman always and I will miss him.*

*Love, Honor & Respect*

*Doug "Doc" Fletcher  
USN FMF RET  
Live Free or Die Chapter  
Nam Knights M/C*

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**Doug "Doc" Fletcher** - December 27, 2013 at 04:33 PM

JU

“ *Julie lit a candle in memory of Edmund E. Johnson Jr.*



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**Julie** - December 27, 2013 at 02:20 PM

RB

“ *We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Captain Edmund E. Johnson Jr. USMC (Ret.)*  
*"Sometimes people come into our lives, and quietly go. Others may stay for awhile, and leave footprints on our hearts....and we are never the same." -Unknown*  
*Respectfully,*  
*Sgt. Richard A. Ballou (United States Army-Vietnam 1967-1968)*

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**R.A. Ballou** - December 26, 2013 at 09:43 PM

LM

“ I was honored to have known Capt. Ed through both Pease Greeters and My Breast Cancer Support. I admired his patriotism and dedication to the troops, was warmed by his open-armed welcome into the Greeters, loved hearing his stories, and was delighted by the twinkle in his eyes. He was truly one-of-a-kind and he will be missed.

*My deepest sympathies to the family.*

*Linda Muise*

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**Linda Muise** - December 26, 2013 at 07:07 PM

RS

“ Dear Anne and Family,

*Ed and I first met when he came to work for USM/Emhart, and I thoroughly enjoyed working with him. He was a wonderful person, a good story teller, and the term "Once a Marine - Always a Marine" fit him to a tee. He will remain in my memory as "one of the good guys".*

*You have my deepest sympathy Anne,*

*Roland "Bud" Seed*

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**Roland Seed** - December 26, 2013 at 07:06 PM

JP

“ To Ed's Family & Friends,  
*You are all in our thoughts and prayers.  
In friendship and sympathy,  
Janet Pardo & Karen long*

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**Janet Pardo** - December 26, 2013 at 06:22 PM

CD

“ I have been honored and blessed to share a salute with you to our soldiers. Thank you for being a friend to all those you've met. And thank you for showing us what the true meaning of "self-less service" means.

*Thoughts and prayers to the family.*

*With love, honor and respect,  
Duffy*

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**Camille Duffy** - December 26, 2013 at 04:20 PM

SP

“ My deepest sympathies to Capt. Ed's family and friends. May your memories bring smiles of remembrance of your time with him. He was a wonderful person.

*I met him by becoming a Pease Greeter. He was so welcoming to all who went to greet the flights. There was something about him that just drew me in to do whatever I could for those on the flights and to help out the "regulars" with their behind-the-scene jobs.*

*Thank you Capt. Ed for briefly touching my life. I am glad we got to meet.*

*Ooh-Raa!*

*Sandy Priano*

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**Sandy Priano** - December 26, 2013 at 04:10 PM



“ *Captain Ed has been a wonderful inspiration to me and my family. He got us "hooked" on greeting the troops as Pease Greeters and he even encouraged our youngest child (who hopes to study volcanos) by connecting her with his daughter, who was also a wonderful, friendly, encouraging influence... like her dad! Much sympathy to his wife and family, my prayer is that they find much comfort in the love and memories they share.*

*Jan and Frank Chetelat*

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**Jan Chetelat** - December 26, 2013 at 02:40 PM

GD

“ *Semper Fi Ed. Your duty here is complete as you enter your next one.*

*Our sincere condolences to Anne and family as we share you greef. Our prayers for your comfort and healing during this trying time.*

*Rest in peace Marine.*

*George & Susan Davidson*

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**George Davidson** - December 26, 2013 at 02:19 PM

PD

“ *Semper Fi Captain, You touched my heart like no man ever has, including my dad who died when I was a small boy. I had planned on going to one greet until I met you. That was over 400 flts. ago. My sincere condolence to your dear wife Anne & children, may the memories they hold ease the pain of your loss. I salute you my brother. RIP.*

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**Paul Dachsteiner** - December 26, 2013 at 01:43 PM

KE

“ *SEMPER FI Captain Ed. You have and always will have a special place in my heart. Thank you for all the wonderful memories. Until we meet again...*

*Anne and family, I am so sorry for you loss. Ed was a very special man to many people.*

*Love and hugs, Kelly "The Cookie Lady" Eaton*

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**Kelly Eaton** - December 26, 2013 at 12:55 PM

JS

“ *Anne, and his 3 Daughters,  
Ed was a special part of our lives, and will not be forgotten. Thinking of you all, Love and Hugs, JoAnne, Fred Schottler, and Isabella Sawyer*

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**JoAnne Schottler** - December 26, 2013 at 11:13 AM

MR

“ *Anne,*

*My deepest sympathies on the loss of your husband. Not only a decorated veteran from the Korean War, but a true friend to all those who benefitted from his generosity and kindness as he welcomed our service members passing through Pease. His memory lives on in all those whose hearts he touched.*

*Maj Gen Bill Reddel  
Adjutant General  
New Hampshire National Guard*

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**Maj Gen Bill Reddel** - December 26, 2013 at 08:57 AM

VC

“ *A life well done Ed.....Your dedication in recognizing and supporting the troops inspired us more than you ever knew. God Blessed us all with your presence through your life journey. Heaven now has a guardian angel that will continue to to do his work as he watches and guides us all to carry on his legacy. We should all aspire to be like Ed. My condolences to his family.*

*God Bless You*

*Veronica (Roni) Childs*

*Steve Childs*

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**Veronica (Roni) Childs** - December 26, 2013 at 07:40 AM

JA

“ *What a beautiful memorial note.*

*Ed was fortunate and blessed to have such a loving family and exceptional legacy to leave for so many to carry on. Ed left the world a better place with his establishment of Pease Greeters, a wonderful family and so much more- what a wonderful garden of life he planted and established.*

*My sincere sympathy,*

*Jacqueline Aiken*

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**Jacqueline Aiken** - December 26, 2013 at 06:19 AM