

J. ALAN "JERRY" JOHNSON



J. Alan (Jerry) Johnson, 79, passed away peacefully on April 22, 2024, surrounded by friends and family at his home in Pittsburgh after battling dementia. Jerry is survived by his devoted wife of 52 years, Kristen; cherished sons, Jason (Elizabeth) and Christopher (Mimi); and adored grandchildren, Nick, Liv, and Kai.

After graduating from North Hills High School, he attended Valley Forge Military Academy and later earned his bachelor's degree from Kent State University in 1968. In 1971, he received his Juris Doctorate from the Duquesne University School of Law. His legal career began in the Allegheny County District Attorney's Office, where he was an Assistant District Attorney. Upon leaving the District Attorney's office, he joined the U.S. Federal Strike Force and later became an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania where he was subsequently appointed by President Ronald Reagan to become U.S. Attorney. He led successful prosecutions in several high-profile cases, most notably the 1985 Pittsburgh drug trials, which gained national attention for exposing the prevalence of cocaine in Major League Baseball. Jerry also chaired the U.S. Attorney General's Advisory Committee and was an adjunct professor of law at Duquesne University School of Law.

Jerry was a passionate car enthusiast, an amateur pilot, and a fan of the Rat Pack, especially Dean Martin. His work ethic, intellect, and love of storytelling left a lasting impression on all who knew him.

After his dementia diagnosis, Jerry joined BRiTE (BRiTE Wellness Center, a program designed for seniors with mild cognitive issues), a life-changing organization where he spent long hours and made many lasting friendships.

Visitation will be held on May 8th from 2 to 4pm and 6 to 8pm at **SIMONS FUNERAL HOME, INC.**, 7720 Perry Highway, where a celebration of life will be held May 9th at 11:30 am. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to BRiTE Wellness Program, 1310 Old Freeport Road, Suite 38214, Pittsburgh, PA 15238.

www.simonsfuneralhome.com

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