



Press



Release

## Obituary Announcement

Mr. Grant Johnson, Jr.



### REFLECTIONS

On Saturday September 18, 1923, Grant Johnson Jr., the first son of nine children born to Grant (Florida) and Gussie (South Carolina) Johnson in Knoxville, Tennessee. Grant was preceded in death by parents, seven siblings and his dear wife Helen.

Grant was raised his entire life in Knoxville in a large loving Christian family, full of boys (only one sister).

He graduated from high school in 1941 and joined the Marines with his brother, Fred, one year later, responding

to the call of the war.

Grant served three years in the Marines. He received a Congressional Medal of Honor (2012) for his participation in the first Afro American segregated core based in Montford Point, North Carolina. He was proud to be a Montford Point Marine, and could often be seen wearing his cap. Grant relocated to Los Angeles, where he met and married Helen Marie Allen (Houston, Texas) in 1949.

Helen was his wife of 36 years. She preceded him in death in September of 1987. To that union were born five children; Toni Denise, Granieta Lynn, Pamela Leah, Roslyn Ann, and their precious only son, David Grant.

Grant was employed by Santa Fe Railroad until retirement at age 63, having been employed for over 40 years. He served in various capacities, his last as a librarian. Grant's loyalty to his employer was just one of his worthy character traits. he was a man of upmost integrity, loyalty and commitment to God, family( biologic and adopted) and friends.





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His second job was as the head director of his beloved pediatric practice in Compton as well as assisting his friends in whatever capacity (often cooking for large gatherings). He was a father/grandfather figure for over 30 years to so many staff members/health professionals and staff members. He was a member of the Jarvis Senior center and the Montford Point Marines association that met at the Weingart YMCA.

Grant enjoyed traveling, casino games, cooking and hosting family and friends to many of his gastronomic feats; discussing sports, local and foreign current events. He was an avid reader and retained a wealth of information for which he would readily debate.

Grant is survived by his children, Toni Chavis-Greene ( Kenneth), Granieta Wilson ( Byron), Pamela Johnson, Roslyn Ann Shaw ( Charles), David Johnson ( Traci Green), family adopted daughter Coretta Moore : sister, Agnes Johnson ( Knoxville), Brother, Arthur Johnson ( Gloria), Bobbie Jean (Uncle Joe) Knoxville, Rosa Johnson (Uncle Marvin-Florida) and sister-in law Ola B. Griffith( 97, Los Angeles). He has 8 grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews, great nieces, great nephews, his lifelong friend Theresa "Jean " Shaw, and many relatives and friends.

His Friend and Spiritual leader has been Pastor Darryl Jones of Fellowship CCC, in Los Angeles, California.

He will always be in our hearts and will be greatly missed until we see him again.

