



Cynthia Johnson

July 26, 1941 - October 20, 2019

Cynthia A. Johnson, 78, of Fergus Falls died Sunday, October 20, 2019 surrounded by her family.

Cynthia (Sether) Johnson was born July 26, 1941, to Sidney and Mildred (Eide) Sether in Fergus Falls. She grew up in Oscar Township and attended primary school in Carlisle. She graduated from Fergus Falls High School in 1959. She was baptized and confirmed at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Fergus Falls.

She graduated from NDSU in 1963 with a Bachelor of Science in Home Economics. While attending NDSU, she was the editor of the yearbook and member of Sigma Psi Chapter of the Kappa Delta Sorority.

On February 16, 1963 she married Gordon Johnson at Augustana Lutheran Church in Fergus Falls. Cynthia taught for two years in Columbia, South Carolina where Gordy was stationed in the Army at Fort Jackson. Cynthia and Gordy moved back to Minnesota to Orwell Township where they ran a dairy farm until their retirement. As a couple, they hosted and trained numerous International Agricultural students. The family received numerous awards for their farming and dairy operations. Cynthia enjoyed working as a substitute teacher for many years in the Fergus Falls School District. In the 1990's, the couple built their home on West Battle Lake.

Cynthia was a 4-H participant growing up and served as a 4-H club leader and events judge. She was instrumental in the planning, building, and managing of the 4-H food building at the West Ottertail Fairgrounds with many 4-H friends. As a member of Augustana Lutheran Church, she served as President and Vice-President of the church council and WELCA president. She was active in church Bible Study, programming and she sang in the choir for many years.

Cynthia was named the Red River Valley Farm Woman of the Year in 1993 and the Valley Farmer and Homemaker for West Ottertail County in 2004. She was appointed as an initial

board member for the Minnesota Center for Rural Policy and Development and served from 1997-2012. She also served on the Pioneer Care Corporate Board from 1996-2005; the Norwest Financial Bank Board; MAST/PART International Program Advisory Committee; Ottertail County Agricultural Advisory Committee, American Dairy Association Board, University of Minnesota Extension Services Board; she was also a volunteer and Board Member of Fergus Falls Area Dollar for Scholars, a member of PEO, and a volunteer to many school and community programs. She was an avid supporter of her children's and grandchildren's activities and the surrounding area fine arts and sporting events.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband, Gordon, who died in 2012.

Cynthia is survived by her four children, Todd (Dacia) Johnson, Stephanie (Eric) Johnson, Lisa (Allen) Rezac, and Melissa Johnson; grandchildren, Rachel and Matthew Johnson, Sether, Karsten, and Bjorn Johnson, and Sid, Franklin, and Charlotte Rezac; sisters, Elizabeth Sether and Margaret (Jerry) Rollag; sister-in-law, Connie (Larry) Wahlstrom, and brother-in-law, David (Donna) Johnson; as well as six nephews and numerous cousins.

Visitation: 4:00-7:00 p.m., Friday, October 25, 2019, at the Olson Funeral Home, Fergus Falls and will resume one hour prior to the service at the church

Service: 11:00 a.m., Saturday, October 26, 2019, at the Augustana Lutheran Church, Fergus Falls, MN

Clergy: Reverend Ben Durbin

Interment: South Friborg Cemetery, Rural Carlisle, MN

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Fergus Falls Area Dollars for Scholars program or charity of choice.

Cemetery Details

South Friborg Cemetery

Rural Rothsay, MN

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **25**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Olson Funeral Home
711 Pebble Lake Road
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
info@olsonfuneralhome.com
<https://www.olsonfuneralhome.com>

Service

OCT **26**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Augustana Lutheran Church
308 E. Douglas Ave.
Fergus Falls, MN

Tribute Wall

MB

“ *I can't imagine the world without Cynthia! She had such a happy joy about life.*

Mark Boen - November 12, 2019 at 08:48 PM

TH

“ *I realize this is late to share a memory, but I have been thinking of her often. Several times I saw her at the cemetery, grieving for Gordy. What a faithful wife. Once I was mowing when she stopped and we had a wonderful visit. Even in her grieving time she was an encouragement to me. I hold many memories of her, her parents and sisters. All were, are, great neighbors sharing a very special heritage. Thank you and thanks to Cynthia for helping to make our neighborhood a unique place to raise my family. My sincere sympathies to the entire family of Cynthia.*
Ted Hegseth

Ted Hegseth - November 02, 2019 at 02:04 AM

CE

“ *our sincere sympathies*

Russ and Carol Erlandson



Carol Erlandson - October 28, 2019 at 03:41 PM



“ *4 files added to the album Service Folder*



Olson Funeral Home - October 28, 2019 at 02:26 PM

JL

“ *Joel Lysne lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson*



Joel Lysne - October 28, 2019 at 12:35 PM

JG

“ Sending sympathies from the Houg Family. I know my Dad (Obert) and your Mom were friends from childhood....growing up near Carlisle. So very sorry for your loss.

jill Gustofson - October 27, 2019 at 06:26 PM

OØ

“ Dear family in Fergus Falls and Mn.
We will share our warmest condolences and thoughts with you all after Cynthia passed Away. She was a person with a warm heart and a smile for everyone she met. We had the pleasure to stay with her and Gordy at the summerhouse by the lake in july 2011 when we visited you in Fergus Falls. She also visited us and other relatives in Norway several times.

Oddvin, Anne-Marit and Øystein Øvernes

Oddvin Øvernes - October 27, 2019 at 02:30 PM

KC

“ Dear Johnson family,
Please accept my sympathies for the loss of your wonderful mom. I will always remember her as bright, witty and always a lady. It was a joy to work with her over the years. Blessed be the memory of Cynthia.

Kari Carr - October 26, 2019 at 02:12 PM

RB

“ Our heartfelt sympathy to the Johnson family. Cynthia always had a smile and kind words to share. She and Gordy supported and contributed to their community in agriculture, education, faithfulness to God and Country, and as examples of wonderful parents, grandparents and friends. May each of you keep her in your heart each and every day. Richard and Jan Berge

Richard and Jan Berge - October 26, 2019 at 11:43 AM

RB

“ Richard & Jan Berge lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson



Richard & Jan Berge - October 26, 2019 at 11:32 AM

SK

“ Steven And Roxanne Kjono lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson



Steven and Roxanne Kjono - October 26, 2019 at 10:51 AM

MH

“ Marcia Harles-Johnson lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson



Marcia Harles-Johnson - October 26, 2019 at 04:25 AM

TH

“ The many, many tributes to Cynthia are a reflection of the person she was, with a warm and loving personality. She and Gordy did so much for Fergus Falls and the surrounding area, with the farm community and many, many organizations. After Gordy's passing it was a joy for Sharon and me visiting often with Cynthia at the Viking Cafe. She has a lasting legacy.

Tom Hintgen - October 25, 2019 at 10:40 PM

HS

“ Sorry for your loss of this wonderful lady. I had many talks with Cynthia and the many memories of 4h, extension, dairy farming, love of her family, and her deep love of Gordie. The Johnson's were always super to work with and so kind. I will miss her. God Bless this wonderful friend.

Harold Stanislawski

Harold Stanislawski - October 25, 2019 at 09:47 PM

AD

“ Todd and Dacia, I was so sorry to read about the passing of your wonderful mom! I have many memories of her from the bowling alley and school sporting events, but one of my very favorite is when she taught Adam how to knit while she was his substitute teacher! He loved her!! Prayers and hugs for all of you as you face these difficult days ahead! 💔🙏🙏🙏💔

Angel Devorak - October 25, 2019 at 05:23 PM

ID

“ Dear family! We are so sorry to hear this sad news. Your family in Norway remember your kind and friendly mother and grandmother, and we keep you all in our thoughts these sad days ❤️

ingrid Digernes - October 25, 2019 at 04:34 PM

LI

“ Spent 7 month as an exchange student with the Johnson family in 1984. Often think about that time as the best months I've ever had. Got so much encouragement in different areas. Felt like i was one in the family. Remember both Cynthia and Gordie as very generous and always caring. Will always remember them

Leif Isaksson - October 25, 2019 at 03:35 PM

LI

“ Leif Isaksson lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson



Leif Isaksson - October 25, 2019 at 03:17 PM

SL

“ Your mom was always so friendly and cheerful and fun to run into! She had a great smile and a welcoming personality! I'm sure you know that!

I am sorry to hear of her passing and will keep your family in my prayers.

Sue (Ness) Leach - October 25, 2019 at 02:59 PM

HT

“ Heather Thormodson lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson



Heather Thormodson - October 25, 2019 at 11:59 AM

HT

Our family's sincere condolences to the Johnson family. Of course my candle is green because of all of the fun and great memories in 4-H. I always knew that I could ask Cynthia for help or a hug. She classed up the cattle barn.

Heather Thormodson - October 25, 2019 at 12:01 PM

DP

“ *Delores Peterson lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson*



Delores Peterson - October 25, 2019 at 09:46 AM

DP

Cynthia enjoyed being a part of our Farm Wfe Committee which hosted November Farm Wife events for thirty years.

Delores Peterson - October 25, 2019 at 09:47 AM

 Halei Anderson

“ *Halei Anderson lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson*



Halei Anderson - October 24, 2019 at 04:27 PM

SS

“ *A loss of a beautiful human being. Johnson family very sorry for your loss. What I remember most about Cynthia was her kindness and interest in all the youth in our community. Growing up, she always made one feel special by taking a few minutes to visit and connect. Over the years I have thought of her and how special she made myself and others feel. I try to emulate that in how I treat the youth in my community. She made our community a better place. Please take some time to show interest in someone outside your typical circle of life and think of Cynthia. Cynthia will be missed but never forgotten.*

Shannon Swenson - October 24, 2019 at 03:16 PM

TJ

“ I am so sorry for the loss of Cynthia.

She was a wonderful person who was able to give you much more than you can give her. I spent 9 magic months in her family and she was a wonderful substitute mom for me.

I really appreciated her patience to talk with me and to train my English. She made my year trip in the USA a successful experience. I really loved this family and I will never thank enough for what you did for me.

My thoughts and prayers go to the family.

Today, I am very sad. I was just thinking about Cynthia and Gordon just like very often and decided after so many years to search on internet a way to contact them and I just came across the Obituary. I knew that something links Cynthia and Gordon to me even if we did not talk together for so many years and today, this confirms that it is really the case.

Todd, Dacia, Rachel, Matthew, Lisa, Al, Missy, Steph.. You had a wonderful mom and grandma, ... I will miss her. Sincere condolences.

Cynthia, rest in peace with Gordon.

Thierry Jouannic and family, Breteil 35160 - France

Thierry Jouannic - October 24, 2019 at 03:16 PM

DO

“ I am so sorry for the loss of your mom. Over the past 5 years or so, my dad and I visited with her during lunch, many times at many places! She was always so proud of her children and grandchildren. She always loved it when I reminded her I knew Todd and Dacia. My sympathies are with you all.

Debbie (Wollan) Opatz - October 24, 2019 at 01:24 PM

LH

“ My thoughts and prayers to her family. She was such a wonderful lady.



Linette Hanson - October 24, 2019 at 12:59 PM

LS

“ Lee Skistad lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson



lee skistad - October 24, 2019 at 12:10 PM

JH

“ Cynthia was always a positive, breath of fresh air as a substitute teacher at the Fergus Falls High School. Her involvement in the public schools was a case of "her giving more than she received" to kids...kids loved her! She was very bright and shared her ideas on public schools to all. This quote fits Cindy, "You give little when you give of your possessions, it's when you give of yourself that you truly give." Cindy gave to us all and we're all better for knowing Cindy.

Respectfully,
Jerry Horgen

Jerry Horgen - October 24, 2019 at 10:52 AM

MW

“ I'm unable to attend the services. I will keep the family in my prayers. A memorial will be sent to Dist 544 Foundation in Cynthia's name.

Marlene Wilde - October 24, 2019 at 10:09 AM

AS

“ Audrey Sletten lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson



Audrey Sletten - October 24, 2019 at 09:57 AM

DL

“ Knowing Cynthia was a joy my life, knowing her and her family and being inspired by her love of life, family and farm. She will be missed. RIP Cynthia.

Denise Leitch - October 24, 2019 at 09:29 AM

MP

“ Maizie Parmenter lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson



Maizie Parmenter - October 24, 2019 at 12:28 AM

KP

“ Our heartfelt sympathies to the Johnson family. So many great memories of Cynthia. She was such an amazing lady! Our family is so blessed to call her a friend. The Otter family will miss one of our greatest fans❤️ Keith and Michelle Pearson

Keith Pearson - October 23, 2019 at 11:29 PM

CN

“ Love and sympathy to Cynthia's family. My girls will never forget visiting her farm for a class in how to trim a heifer for the fair. (Douglas county fair). The shelter belt full of chokecherries made wonderful wine. Thank you Cynthia!

corliss nelson - October 23, 2019 at 10:55 PM

TN

“ Our sympathy to you all. Many fond memories of Cynthia.

The Newtons - October 23, 2019 at 10:35 PM

CL

“ Prayers go out to all of Cynthia's family🙏 So very sorry for your loss. She was one classy woman and so much fun to be around. She will be deeply missed.

Cindy Larson - October 23, 2019 at 08:43 PM

KH

“ My sympathy to the Johnson & Sether families. I was a 4-H friend to both families. Karen (Bakken)

Karen (Bakken) Hart - October 23, 2019 at 08:41 PM

LI

“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



liz - October 23, 2019 at 06:47 PM

MR

“ *My condolences to Cynthia's family. She was a great influence to me in my youth through 4-H and being a wonderful neighbor.*

Margie Roehl Rasmussen - October 23, 2019 at 05:58 PM

JB

“ *I've always enjoyed sitting by Cynthia in church. She always engaged lovingly with my little toddler when he has inevitably wandered her way sometime during the service. Thinking of your family during this time.*

Jill Balgaard - October 23, 2019 at 04:19 PM

JB

“ *Jerry Nancy Bogen lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson*



Jerry Nancy Bogen - October 23, 2019 at 02:03 PM

MC

“ *Mike & Sharon Casey lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson*



Mike & Sharon Casey - October 23, 2019 at 07:35 AM

JR

“ *So sad to hear the news about Cynthia. She was quite the lady-a classy farmer's wife! I remember when she was my substitute math teacher in 7th grade! Thinking lots about you all. Take good care, Jana*

Jana Ripley - October 22, 2019 at 08:28 PM

JD

“ Jeff & Robin Drechsel lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson



Jeff & Robin Drechsel - October 22, 2019 at 08:05 PM

GS

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of Cynthia she was such a wonderful caring woman she certainly will be missed by all who knew her. RIP Cynthia.



Greg and Rhonda Schmidt - October 22, 2019 at 07:12 PM

Kurt Johnson

“ Kurt Johnson lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson



Kurt Johnson - October 22, 2019 at 05:52 PM

DD

“ My heartfelt sympathy on the loss of your mom, Cynthia. She was kind, good natured with a great sense of fun. I recall babysitting Todd, Stephanie and Lisa. A great family. Your mom and dad were wonderful people.

Deborah Roehl Davis - October 22, 2019 at 03:47 PM

AD

“ Angela Drechsel lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson



Angela Drechsel - October 22, 2019 at 03:22 PM

AC

“ *Augustana Lutheran Church lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson*



Augustana Lutheran Church - October 22, 2019 at 03:22 PM

RF

“ *Sending prayers and sympathy. I enjoyed visiting with Cynthia whenever I saw her.*

Roberta Freeman

Roberta Freeman - October 22, 2019 at 02:56 PM

SO

“ *Steve & Lynne Olson lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson*



Steve & Lynne Olson - October 22, 2019 at 02:41 PM

MJ

“ *Mark & Kim Jacobs lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson*



Mark & Kim Jacobs - October 22, 2019 at 01:00 PM

DF

“ *Dave And Delores Forkey lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson*



Dave and Delores Forkey - October 22, 2019 at 11:25 AM



“ My sympathy goes out to Cynthia's family and Friends she was a very sweet caring Lady.
RIP Cynthia



Dennis Kilde - October 22, 2019 at 10:35 AM

ML

“ I am sad to hear of her passing. She loved her family so much and praised them always in each conversasion. She was such a dear lady!
I am glad I saw her just a few weeks ago!

Michelle Loomer - October 22, 2019 at 10:28 AM

MD

“ Mary Donley lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson



Mary Donley - October 22, 2019 at 10:14 AM

SS

“ Steve And Diane Stenerson lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson



Steve and Diane Stenerson - October 22, 2019 at 10:06 AM

BS

“ Barbara Stene lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson



Barbara Stene - October 22, 2019 at 08:21 AM

MI

“ *Mary Jo And Marian Igelstad lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson*



Mary Jo and Marian Igelstad - October 21, 2019 at 11:26 PM

SL

“ *Sara And Zach Lange lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson*



Sara and Zach Lange - October 21, 2019 at 10:50 PM

DW

“ *David Whipple lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson*



David Whipple - October 21, 2019 at 09:34 PM

DD

“ *Darren Duenow & Family lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson.*



Darren Duenow - October 21, 2019 at 06:32 PM

TF

“ *The McReavy Family lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson*



The McReavy Family - October 21, 2019 at 06:02 PM

SB

“ Steve, Patti, Eric And Ryan Benson lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson



Steve, Patti, Eric and Ryan Benson - October 21, 2019 at 05:24 PM

PB

Keeping you all in our prayers, Steph and family. Patti & Steve

Patti and Steve Benson - October 21, 2019 at 05:25 PM

TC

“ Tracy Carter lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson



Tracy Carter - October 21, 2019 at 05:16 PM

JJ

“ Jerry & Sharon Johnson lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson



Jerry & Sharon Johnson - October 21, 2019 at 05:07 PM

GT

“ Gaylan & Marcia Thormodson lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson



Gaylan & Marcia Thormodson - October 21, 2019 at 05:03 PM

KG

“ My heart goes out to the Johnson Family! I have great memories at the Johnson Farm from sleepovers in Elementary school to dances in high school! Cynthia always made me feel welcomed! She was a special lady with a BIG heart! Hugs to you Steph! Thinking of all of you!

Love, Karen (Donahue) Gebhart

Karen Gebhart - October 21, 2019 at 04:57 PM

RS

“ Rachel Stratton lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson



Rachel Stratton - October 21, 2019 at 04:31 PM

BD

“ Brett And Wendy Duenow lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson



Brett and Wendy Duenow - October 21, 2019 at 04:17 PM

DB

“ Don & Judy Bradow lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson



Don & Judy Bradow - October 21, 2019 at 04:07 PM

DL

“ As a friend of Stephie's from childhood, Cynthia was that mom that always gave great big hugs that squeezed the stuffing out of you. She always made me feel welcomed and special. Love and prayers to Steph, Todd, Lisa and Missy and their families. May God's grace abound to you.

Love, Dede (Brown) Lawson

Dede Lawson - October 21, 2019 at 03:36 PM

RE

“ Cynthia was an incredible woman!!!. She was the daughter of one of Dad's sisters (she's my first cousin). She was always the life of the party and family get-togethers. Her cool laugh was a memory I'll always remember. We will always cherish our moments with her. Love, Dick and Nancy Eide (Colorado)

Richard Eide - October 21, 2019 at 12:37 PM

LS

“ Linda Shea lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson



Linda Shea - October 21, 2019 at 12:14 PM

CK

“ Chris Kotschevar lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Johnson



Chris Kotschevar - October 21, 2019 at 11:39 AM