



## Dr. Simon O. Johnson

May 20, 1928 - July 2, 2023

Dr. Simon Otis Johnson, Sr., co-founder with his wife, Verna, of the nationally and internationally publicized, recognized and awarded Caring and Sharing Learning School in Gainesville, FL., passed away on July 2, 2023 in Gainesville, FL. Dr. Johnson's Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, July 15, 2023, 11:00AM at Greater Bethel AME Church, 701 SE 43rd Street, Gainesville, 32641. Public Visitation will be on Friday, July 14, 2023 at Greater Bethel AME Church, 4:00PM-5:00PM. A Wake will be held following Visitation from 5:00PM until 6:30PM. Interment will be at Forest Meadows Central, 4100 NW 39th Ave, Gainesville, Florida 32601.

Entrusted to the Care of Chestnut Funeral Home. To order floral arrangements, please visit [www.chestnutfh.com/obituary/](http://www.chestnutfh.com/obituary/). Resolutions may be sent to email, [wecare@chestnutfh.com](mailto:wecare@chestnutfh.com). Any questions may be directed to 352-372-2537.

"A CHESTNUT SERVICE."

# Tribute Wall

MS

“ *Sister Verna and Family: praying for your strength and stamina during this season of loss and challenges.* ”



Mary Silva - July 17, 2023 at 12:00 AM

LB

“ *My sincerest condolences to Soror Johnson and family. Dr. Johnson was a pillar of our community and many young lives were forever changed for the better because God allowed him here for a season. Prayers of strength and comfort to you all.* ”

Leslie Bell - July 15, 2023 at 12:00 AM

TO

“ *It is with a heavy heart and profound sadness that we extend our deepest condolences to you and your loved ones on the passing of Dr. Simon Johnson. Our family, the family of Ajamu McKinney Olamina Ogunlano, joins you in mourning the loss of such an extraordinary individual. Dr. Johnson's legacy and contributions will be remembered by all whose lives he touched.* ”



*Salewa Ajamu McKinney*

The family of Ajamu McKinney Olamina Ogunlano - July 14, 2023 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ *My sincere condolences to the family. Prayers for strength* ”

Latrell Lumpkin Fleming and family - July 14, 2023 at 12:00 AM

MP

“ *My sincere prayers and condolences to the family during this time. I shall always remember Dr. Johnson's kind heart , gentle spirit and amazing contributions to this community.*



Min. Sebrenah V. Phillips - July 14, 2023 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ *With heartfelt condolences, our love & prayers goes out to Mrs. Johnson & Family during this difficult time. Dr. Johnson, he will be missed by us all*

Montalita, De Anfernee, Jasmine, Jermaine & Dionte Burch - July 14, 2023 at 12:00 AM

FC

“ *We are continuing to pray for your comfort and peace from God Almighty. To Mrs. Tova Peterson, Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Peterson, and family.*

Fired-up LEGs group- Passage Family Church - July 13, 2023 at 12:00 AM

AN

“ *With deepest sympathy.Greg & Keysha*

Anonymous - July 13, 2023 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ *Our deepest condolences*

Meredith and Norma Williams, Ocala, FL - July 13, 2023 at 12:00 AM

CG

“ How can I say thank you!!! Dr. Johnson was a father figure to me and countless aspiring educators in Norman Hall. Frankly, i am not sure if i would have finished college or began teaching without the support of Dr. Johnson. As Mrs. Verna said, even if i would have finished, he sure made it a lot easier. Dr. Johnson , i salute you!! And, i thank you from the bottom of my heart. Praying for the family and all who knew and loved Dr. J.

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**Connie Goodman** - July 10, 2023 at 12:00 AM

RJ

“ Dr. Johnson was a pillar of strength and a larger than life 'father-figure' to all of us who were kids and friends of Bev, Ann (my bestie), and Podie, back in the day, and before we all went our separate ways/lives. Back then, as a teacher, coach, principal, he was easy to smile and encourage and make you THINK, but you knew he meant business about education and striving to grow and improve. It was marvelous to witness (even as a child) and see his strength and the example he set that made us all want to do and be better, from his approach to discipline, to homework, to achievement, to the community, to church and beyond. He was an awesome model for life, exceeding and excellence. Our hearts go out to the whole family. Know that we wish you comfort and peace. And we continually pray that by our obedience, faith, and 'HIS GRACE', we will be able to see all those we love, again. Rosalyn (Roz) Bryant and family.

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**Rosalyn (Roz) Bryant Jenkins** - July 09, 2023 at 12:00 AM

RK

“ As you grieve, know that I am remembering you. Dr. Johnson was a great support on my journey into ministry. He will be thought of with love always.

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**Rev. Dr. Debra Walker King** - July 08, 2023 at 12:00 AM

QL

“ As a child I remember attending Caring and Sharing Learning School , and Dr. Johnson and Mrs. Johnson really paved the way for us. Dr. Johnson always had a humble spirit and a pleasant soul , I would like to send my condolences to the Johnson family , Love you all

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**Quinisha Lewis** - July 07, 2023 at 12:00 AM

AN

“ From Theresa Vernetson

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**Anonymous** - July 07, 2023 at 12:00 AM

CG

“ Si, as we referred to him in 1976, was the one who comforted me as he was my advisor when I started the Elementary Ed program at UF. I have nothing but great memories of him during my college years. May he rest in eternal peace.

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**Carolyn B Green** - July 07, 2023 at 12:00 AM