



## Barney Brooks Johnson

December 31, 1946 - December 9, 2015

Brooks Johnson, 68, of Newnan, Georgia died on Wednesday, December 9th, after a lengthy battle with cancer.

He was born to the late William Cicero Johnson and Margie Brown Johnson on Dec. 31st 1946 in Montgomery, Alabama.

Brooks leaves a legacy of love and integrity with his family and those who knew him. He has left behind wonderful memories of a loving Husband, Father, and Grandfather. We are grateful for each and every day we got to see his glowing smile, and for the lessons and all the joy we shared. He was bursting with energy and always had a bit of mischief in his eyes. Brooks accepted Jesus as his Lord and Savior and was baptized in 1958. He rededicated his life to the Lord in 2003.

Brooks graduated from Sidney Lanier High School in 1965 and studied 3 ½ years at Troy State University (1965-1968). He spent his summer breaks working at Disneyland. He worked first in merchandising and then the talent department. Some of his many duties included: portraying Disney characters, attending Hollywood premiers and assisting movie stars. On weekends, during the school year, he traveled to Atlanta and portrayed a gunslinger in the area called "Lick Skillet" at Six Flags over Georgia.

In 1969, Brooks settled in at Delta Airlines working in customer service and later in the training department. Early in his career at Delta while transporting flight attendants to their gates he met his soul-mate Dana to whom he said, "I will take you wherever you want to go!" He married Dana Hairston of Houston,

Texas six months later. Brooks and his sweetheart had a special relationship. Soul mates you might say sharing a romance that lasted throughout their entire marriage. Dana says he treated her "like a princess." They lived together in Fayetteville, Georgia before relocating to Newnan, Georgia in 1990. They were blessed with two beautiful daughters Kelli and Kasey and six grandchildren.

During his off time from Delta, his love for fishing prompted him to start a business. He owned and operated the "Laughing Bass Tournament Trail" for 8 years with great success, making many new loving friends. He was also a member of the "Cajun 100" national fishing team and fished the U.S. Bass and B.A.S.S. He retired from Delta at age 52 and went into business for himself in construction. Brooks and his family attended Crossroads Church and were community group leaders for 2 years.

One or the other must leave, one or the other must grieve, and that is forever the way.

That is the vow that was sworn, 'faithful till death do us part.'

Braving what has to be borne, widening the ache in the heart.

One how so ever adored, first must be summoned away.

That is the will of the Lord-one or the other must stay!

Brooks was preceded in death by his father, William Cicero Johnson and his mother Margie Brown Johnson.

Brooks is survived by his wife, Dana Hairston Johnson, his daughters Kelli (Chet) Yates of Thomaston, Georgia and Kasey Johnson and fiancé Levi Thompson of Athens, Georgia. Six Grandchildren, Brooks, Fred, Mary Kate, Keylan, Hailey, and Ty Yates; two sisters, Frankie (Hudson) Manning of Kennesaw, Georgia and Katherine (John) Crook of Fort Deposit, Alabama, brother-in-law Dickson Hairston of Dallas, Texas, three special nephews; Mike Manning of Savannah, Georgia, Patrick (Traci) Manning of Cedar Rapids, Iowa and Jason (Stephanie) Crook of Millwood, Alabama.

Condolences can be expressed online at [www.mckoon.com](http://www.mckoon.com). Those who wish may send flowers or make contributions to the American Cancer Society, 301 Kelley Dr., Suite 3, Peachtree City, GA 30269 or to Crossroads Church Newnan, 2564 GA 154, Newnan, GA 30265.

The memorial service is Sunday, December 13, 2015 at 4 o'clock in the chapel of McKoon Funeral Home, 38 Jackson St, Newnan with Pastor Ken Adams & Pastor John Hobbs officiating. The family will receive friends at the funeral home beginning at 2 p.m. Sunday McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory (770) 253-4580.

# Cemetery Details

## McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory

38 Jackson Street  
Newnan, GA 30263  
(770) 253-4580  
care@mckoon.com  
<http://www.mckoon.com>

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**DEC 13.** 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

McKoon Funeral Home  
38 Jackson Street  
Newnan, GA 30263  
(770) 253-4580  
care@mckoon.com

## Service

**DEC 13.** 4:00 PM (ET)

McKoon Funeral Home Chapel  
38 Jackson Street  
Newnan, GA 30263  
(770) 253-4580  
care@mckoon.com  
<http://www.mckoon.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Fruits and Blooms Basket was purchased for the family of Barney Brooks Johnson.*



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January 05, 2016 at 12:42 PM



“ *I was married to Brooks on April 4, 1970. We met at Delta. and married six months later. He was the MOST funny, lovable, sweet and good man I have ever met.*



*My sincere condolences to you Dana, your daughters, and the rest of the Johnson family.*

*I knew of Brooks' illness through a fellow Delta employee. My sister and I TRIED to find a way to see him about a year ago.*

*My heart is broken for you Dana. Heaven must have needed one more "Character". He ALWAYS made people laugh, no WHAT the situation.*

*I am so sorry he suffered for so long. There was a greater purpose for him to stay here with you.*

*My sister and I both took our Dad's name back after our divorce. Brooks and my Dad were So much alike. They truly loved each other. There is no greater love than the Father-daughter bond. To say Brook's was like our Dad is the ultimate compliment to him. My heart is filled with grief for you all. Brenda Culbreath*

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**Brenda culbreath** - December 30, 2015 at 12:47 AM

JE

“ Brooks was my brother-in-law way back in the 70's, while married to my sister, Brenda. He was just the funniest, most down to earth, kindest guy on the planet! I'll never forget mom & dad's NY Eve party when Brooks ran around their house at Midnight, wearing nothing but a homemade diaper!! He was ALWAYS the life of the party and so much fun to be around. Heaven has gained another sweet, gentle, very funny angel!!



RIP Brooks <3

I always loved you. You were the BEST!!

Julie Culbreath-Everitt

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**Julie Everitt** - December 29, 2015 at 07:19 AM

BG

RIP Brooks. You were the "Life of the Party".....ALWAYS.  
Missed by MANY. 🥺😭💙🙏😊

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**Brenda Culbreath Graham** - June 07, 2021 at 05:46 PM

TG

“ I was stunned when Brooks told me of his Cancer about 3 years ago, but in a typical Brooks fashion he told me he was going to beat it because he had too much to live for. If anyone could overcome the odds, it would be Brooks. He had such a can do attitude that made you believe he could do whatever he put his mind to. I was again stunned when I heard of his passing and immediately thought about the love of his life Dana. They truly loved each other and I knew what a huge hole he was going to leave.

When I first met Brooks at Delta, I wasn't sure what to think of him. He loved to "jerk your chain" by kidding with people. It wasn't long before we became the best of friends. We spent a lot of time together fishing, talking, watching sports and just enjoying life. I talked to him almost daily, so I was a little concerned when I couldn't reach him for almost a week, when he finally showed up at my house with the love of his life...Dana. It wasn't long before I knew she and he would be together forever. He was so happy.

Brooks taught me everything I know about fishing for Bass. He was a wonderful friend, husband and father. If you ever needed him for anything, you could count on him to be there. I will never forget him (that would be impossible for anyone who knew him well) and think of all the good times I spent with him and Dana. My thoughts are with his family and know that he will be missed by all. I love you Brooks.

Tom Glover

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Tom Glover - December 16, 2015 at 04:17 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Barney Brooks Johnson.*



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December 12, 2015 at 11:33 AM



“ *I am sorry to hear about the passing of Brooks. Please accept my condolences. We can look forward to the promises found at Isaiah 26:19 and Revelation 21:3,4. Soon, all things causing pain including death will be done away with on earth. May you find the strength to endure in the days ahead.*

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**Neil Dupree** - December 12, 2015 at 07:05 AM



“ *So sorry for your loss, I worked with Brooks for over 30 years and will always remember his smile and his laughter. He is another of our brothers that grew up together at Delta. I will miss him as you and your family will for a little while ,but then we shall be together forever because of the LORD JESUS CHRIST. He will continue to bless you and your family and Brooks" friends until we meet again. David and Dianne Gilmore*

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**david gilmore** - December 11, 2015 at 05:19 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Barney Brooks Johnson.*



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December 11, 2015 at 04:13 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory** - December 11, 2015 at 03:48 PM

MH

“ *Mike and Dee Hairston purchased the Fairest of All for the family of Barney Brooks Johnson.*



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**Mike and Dee Hairston** - December 11, 2015 at 03:18 PM

MR

“ *Brooks was a someone that you wanted to be around. What a good man and I feel very lucky to have called him a friend. I think it is really special when you hear a name that a smile comes on your face. Brooks was that person. I worked with him at Delta for many years. I am not a fisherman but loved his fishing stories at work. We did play some golf together. When you got to work and saw that you were working with him you knew it was going to be a good day. He was always very upbeat. The way he talked about his family was as loving as I have ever heard. Brooks will be greatly missed. When I look back, they are all good memories. I will always smile when I think of Brooks. My prayers are with the family.*

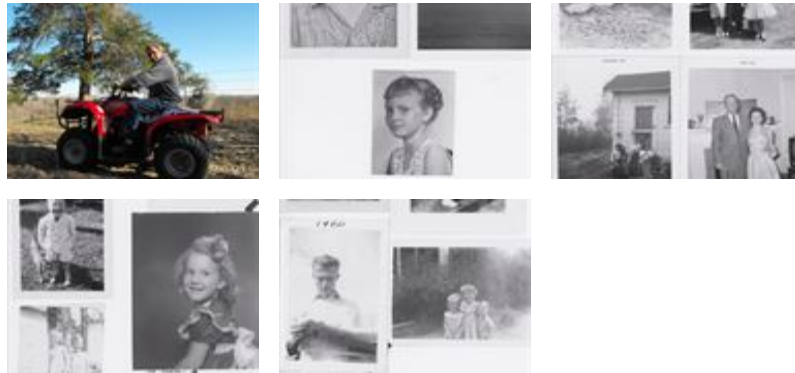
*Sincerely,  
Mike Rainwater*

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**Mike Rainwater** - December 11, 2015 at 12:11 PM



“ 168 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



**McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory** - December 11, 2015 at 10:15 AM



“ *Many great memories with Brooks. Never saw the man slowdown or be in a bad mood. Seen him mad (when he was starting a tournament at West Point @ Highland Marina and in the dark and cold morning - with megaphone in hand - he walked off the end of the dock in the freezing water). Amazingly within seconds he was back on the dock and mouth running 100 MPH!!! Worked for him at Delta, Laughting Bass, fished against him & with him. Maple Creek in April provided more keepers than we could count. Thanks Brooks for the many laughs & memories!!! See you on the other side. My Prayers to all of Brooks Loved Ones!!*  
*Joey & Keyla Leatherwood*

**Joey Leatherwood** - December 11, 2015 at 10:00 AM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Barney Brooks Johnson.*



December 11, 2015 at 07:53 AM



“ It seems only yesterday Brooks was offering his condolences for my son, Jon Akers, who left us nearly nine years ago. He worked for Brooks at Laughing Bass for several years and as an apprentice with him in his carpentry business. Jon loved Brooks, and I think it's safe to say, Brooks loved Jon. Now they are together with their Savior. Oh what joy they must be experiencing. And what fish stories they can tell!



Leigh Wills - December 10, 2015 at 11:41 PM



Dana, Kelli and Kasey... my prayer for you is you will find peace and strength from our Lord during this most difficult time, knowing what an impact Brooks made on the lives of others. He was a good role model for Jon as I'm sure for others. I am eternally grateful.

Leigh Wills - December 11, 2015 at 05:32 AM



Aunt Dana, Kelli and Kasey, I am truly sorry for your loss. Uncle Brooks was always there for me growing up and as a child I would get so excited during Christmas and my birthday because I knew he would be giving me the coolest gifts that year. A bow and Arrow, Pellet rifle, pocket knife, Fishing rod. Brooks taught me how to cast correctly and make the bait go where I wanted it to land. That is just one example of the many valuable lessons learned growing up. While I was sitting at the airport after my last visit with Uncle Brooks I reflected about it and thought Wow! This is a brave man and what an incredible attitude given his situation. I asked myself would I have that kind of courage if I was in his situation? The one thing that will always stick with me was when he smiled his bright smile and said with joy I know where I am going. I have no doubt Uncle Brooks is in heaven now I only hope that I can live my life with the same honor and integrity he did. He will be greatly missed.

Patrick Manning - December 11, 2015 at 09:08 AM

KB

“ *Dana I'm very sorry for your loss. Kathy bush*

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**kathy bush** - December 10, 2015 at 08:06 PM

PS

“ *What no eye has seen,  
What no ear has heard,  
And what no human mind has conceived  
the things God has prepared for those who love him. 1 Cor. 2:9*

*Praying for all that loved Brooks that you will find comfort in knowing  
Brooks is healed and with Jesus. He will be greatly missed.*

*Peggy Biddle Swygert*

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**Peggy Biddle Swygert** - December 10, 2015 at 04:13 PM

 Becky  
Manning

“ *That sparkle in his eye was what I looked most forward to anytime I would see Brooks Johnson. Even in his hospital bed he had that sparkle and the ability to make me laugh when I was the one there to cheer him up! A GIFT to this world was this wonderful special man who will be missed beyond description by so very many .... Dana, your marriage to Brooks has been such a blessing to witness. Thank you both for sharing that with the world. I'm so sorry for your loss. Kelli and Kasey - I love you girls dearly and always will. You both hold a very special place in my heart. Katherine - I'm so sorry for your loss as well. And, my sweet Frankie, I am so sorry for your pain. I love you so much and I'm simply a call away. I'll be there anytime.... Please know you are all in my continued prayers. Love,  
B*

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**Becky Manning** - December 10, 2015 at 02:59 PM

PG

“ *Patricia Greenway lit a candle in memory of Barney Brooks Johnson*



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**Patricia Greenway** - December 10, 2015 at 01:28 PM

PG

“ *Very sorry for your loss and praying for God's peace, comfort and strength during this difficult time. Love you, Patricia Greenway*

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**Patricia Greenway** - December 10, 2015 at 01:26 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Barney Brooks Johnson.*



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December 10, 2015 at 11:09 AM

JE

“ *Dana, Kelli and Kasey..... we send our love and hugs to you all. Brooks was so much fun to be around. We enjoyed spending the times we did with him. We think of you and Brooks each time we go to Fish daddy's and always will. May God flood you with love and hugs during this time of mourning...*

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**Joe & Ruby Estes** - December 10, 2015 at 09:29 AM