



Bonita Jean Aldrich-Johnson

October 31, 2017

Sissonville, WV- Bonita Jean (Durham) Aldrich-Johnson, 74, died Tuesday, October 31st, 2017 at Cedar Ridge Center Nursing Facility in Sissonville following a long battle with her health.

She survived husband Robert Baxter Johnson; son Brian Michael Aldrich (stillborn) and leaves behind her daughter Colleen Aldrich Kershaw; sons Mark William Aldrich, Robert Charles Aldrich & Michael Aaron Aldrich; her sisters Seva Dennis Pike & Amy Pinnow Rana; brothers Roger Dennis & Scott Dennis; son-in-law Terry Kershaw; daughters-in-law Irina Aldrich & Lisa Aldrich; seven grandchildren; six great grandchildren; and many other family, friends, and special caregivers.

Affectionately known as Bonnie, she was born in Charleston and was raised in Dunbar, WV and Elyria, OH. She was born the daughter of Roger Dennis and Maycel Wright Pinnow.

In her early years, Bonnie enjoyed dancing, music, caring for animals and gardening. She graduated from Elyria High School in 1961 and pioneered in business as she worked as a draftsman at the Loraine County Title Company. She soon met her husband Gerald William Aldrich and was married in November 1962 at the First Congregational Church in Elyria. Together they had five children and she expanded her talents as a mother and avid artist,

making beautifully hand-crafted quilts.

Bonnie was a loving mother and caring provider- all things that allowed her children to flourish and complete their goals. In addition to being a homemaker and artist, she also worked briefly as a nursing home aid and at Trans-Tec Corporation in Milan, OH. After several family relocations, they moved back to her home state of West Virginia. She divorced in 1994 and Bonnie lived for the first time on her own, making a home in St. Albans. There she learned more about herself, her spirituality, and became a skilled gardener to her flowers and a caregiver to her neighbors.

During this special time, she met her soul-mate Robert (Bob) B. Johnson and they were married at their church, Maranatha Fellowship in December 2006. Bonnie and Bob celebrated their wedding and resided together at Cedar Ridge Center Nursing Facility until his death in June 2011. While married only a short time, they experienced a lifetime of love and compassion for each other. The story of their love and strength still flows through the halls of Cedar Ridge.

Bonnie will always be remembered as an intelligent, strong, and beautiful woman. She was talented, loving to her family, and a fine example of strength and gentleness. Her favorite phrase "I love you more" will always be remembered. Her family rejoices in her peace among the arms of the Lord after such a long fight. A private remembrance celebration will be held later in the Summer.

Tribute Wall



“ *Bonita Jean Aldrich-Johnson*

October 06, 2023 at 08:41 AM



“ *5 files added to the album Bonnie thru the years*



David Aldrich - November 07, 2017 at 05:26 PM

NB

“ I remember Bonnie as the most beautiful person not only on the outside but on the inside. I met Bonnie over 50 years ago here in Elyria and we became friends, when I was expecting my last baby Scott 46 years ago I was invited to spend the day with Bonnie because my due date was very close and my husband went on a trip with Jerry to Michigan and she did not want be to be alone. We had such a great time and Bonnie cooked the most delicious pasta sauce I have ever had, she was very gracious and shared her recipe with me and I still make the sauce and think of her.

She was a driving force behind my starting to quilt, she made such beautiful quilts and I could never compare to hers. When my dad died in 1986 I felt so alone and I thought that Bonnie had moved out of state but the phone rang and there she was and you could say she "saved me" that day. Her family was such an important force in her life and she was so proud of them. My regret is that I was not able to keep in contact with her but I really believe that my husband that went to be with the Lord 3 years ago was there to greet her. My thoughts and prayers are with all the family. Rest now in peace dear friend.

Nancy Brenneman

Nancy Brenneman - November 06, 2017 at 03:29 PM

CK

Thank you so much for sharing your beautiful memories of your deep friendship with my Mom. I know she cherished her times with you, and admired your faith in God, and strove to emulate your faith and strength even as you slipped out of her daily contact. She continued to think about you often as her dearest friend and expressed those thoughts until her condition prevented her from verbalizing them. You were such a special part of her life, and I love hearing that you felt the same way about her. May God continue to remind us of how important it is to love and support our friends throughout our lives. Thank you, Nancy, for your kind words and memories.

Colleen Kershaw - February 14, 2018 at 01:19 PM