



Brenda Johnston

November 27, 1945 - March 3, 2025

PRINCETON – Brenda Johnston, 79, of Princeton, died Monday, March 3, 2025. Born November 27, 1945, in Welch, she was the daughter of the late Roy James Clay and Madelyn Norton Clay.

Mrs. Johnston was the former executive secretary at Joyce Engineering in Princeton. She was a member of Lilly Grove Baptist Church, and previously, First Baptist Church in Princeton. Her passion for many years was being the Explorers Bible Study leader. She enjoyed reading and playing games on her phone. She loved spending time with her grandchildren and great-grandson.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by one daughter, Sandra Louise Leach; two sisters, Goldie Swank and Loretta Sheets; and one brother, Bill Clay.

Survivors include her husband of 62 years, Doug Johnston; one son, Doug “Buddy” Johnston, II and wife Dianna of Blacksburg, VA; one son-in-law, Larry Leach of Richmond, VA; sister-in-law, Betty Clay of New Baltimore, VA; two brothers-in-law, Robert Johnston and wife Thuresa of Prospect, VA and Frank Dalton of Princeton; sister-in-law, Mary Ann Cox and husband Steve of Mesquite, NV; four grandchildren, Stephen Johnston of Blacksburg, VA, Chris Leach of Richmond, VA, Levi Johnston and wife Alison of Lynchburg, VA and Caroline Leach of Herndon, VA; and one great-grandson, David Johnston of

Lynchburg, VA.

Honoring Brenda's wishes, there will be no services at the funeral home.

Arrangements by Bailey-Kirk Funeral Home in Princeton. Online condolences may be shared with the family at www.bailey-kirk.com.

Tribute Wall

PJ

“ *She will be missed at our family's dinners and luncheons. Brenda tell Ralph I miss him a lot.* ”



Patty Johnston - March 04, 2025 at 06:27 PM

SB

“ *Our bonus Grandparents* ”



Sarah Blair - March 04, 2025 at 05:50 PM

KM

“ *Aunt Brenda has always had a special place in my heart! I'll never forget our family trip to Niagara Falls and Easter Sunday at your house! After the death of my father, Brenda's only brother, she really helped guide me through that pain, and gave me constant reassurance through scriptures. I will always love you Aunt Brenda, and I will forever be grateful God chose you to be my Auntie! All my love and prayers to Doug, Buddy, and the family.* ”

Kristen Clay Miller - March 04, 2025 at 05:21 PM

SN

“ Brenda was a wonderful person. I enjoyed her lectures at Explorers Bible Study and missed her when she was not there. My prayers got out to all her family. Shelby Neal

Shelby Neal - March 04, 2025 at 03:38 PM

SB

“ I will forever think of Brenda and Doug both whenever I watch the original Star Wars Trilogy. They helped me discover my love of sci-fi during with weekends spent over at their home being my WV Grandparents ❤️ Years were spent playing Tetris on their computer while hanging out in the tv room. I also figured out how to French Braid my hair at their house. I now braid my hair daily. Maybe I will watch Seven Brides for Seven Brothers another classic VHS I consistently borrowed from them. They were like my own personal Blockbuster I would always go home with a random assortment of VHS movies to watch and then return to them next time we went to church.

Sarah Blair - March 04, 2025 at 01:10 PM

DJ

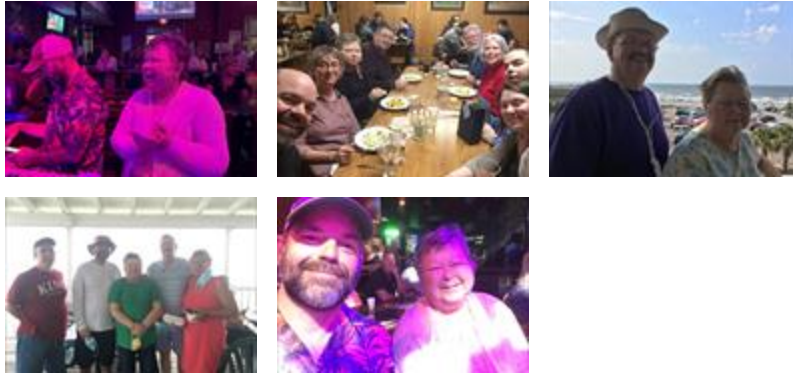
“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Doug Johnston - March 04, 2025 at 12:33 PM

DJ

“ Mom lived a good, long life considering her many health issues, and she was strong in faith and character throughout her life. We will miss having her with us, but her memory is a blessing. I could, of course, share a million memories, but I could never do them justice...



Doug Johnston - March 04, 2025 at 12:26 PM

BA

Loved Nana God has you and your heart of gold

Barbie Atwood - March 13, 2025 at 03:32 PM

MB

“ Brenda stayed at my Mom and Dad's house for a while our Senior year of school in 1963.. Brenda and I enjoyed each other's company. She was a wonderful friend. I'll miss her. When her and Doug lived in Maine, another friend and I went and spent 2 weeks with them. Brenda was fun to be around.

Mary Alice Bishop - March 03, 2025 at 06:52 PM