



## Martha "Betty" Johnson

August 5, 1924 - February 19, 2014

Martha E. "Betty" Johnson, 89, of Quinnesec, passed away on Wednesday, February 19, 2014 at St. Vincent Hospital in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

Betty was born on August 5, 1924, in Florence, South Carolina, the daughter of the late James and Laurie (Gorman) Hollingsworth. She was a 1942 graduate of Tubman High School in Augusta, GA.

Betty entered the Air Force in honor of her brother, James Hollingsworth, who was killed in action. She was first assigned with the Air Force and then later to the Third Army where she was the secretary to the chief of staff, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower. While in Washington, Betty asked to be sent on overseas duty. She chose Atlantic since her brother was buried in England. While serving in Germany, she went to Hitler's Hideout, rode in Gering's train car, and attended a portion of the Nuremberg Trials. The Nuremberg Trials were a series of trials from 1945-1949 that prosecuted prominent leaders of Nazi Germany after its defeat in World War II.

The most memorable event for Betty was on Feb. 3 and Feb. 8, 1947. Those were the days in which she and her husband, Lee, were married in Germany. After getting permission from both of their commanders to be married, they first had to be married by the law of the land on Feb. 3, and on Feb. 8 had their church wedding performed by a chaplain. At the end of her military

career, she had earned the rank of staff sergeant. Some of her commendations include the European and American Theatre Ribbons, Good Conduct Medal, Overseas Stripes, and Victory Medal as well as her superior rating while working for Gen. Eisenhower.

As a mother, she stayed very active in the community. She taught Red Cross swimming and lifesaving for 42 years, was involved as a 4-H leader and in the Boy Scouts. She directed the Precisionaires Drill team and was affiliated with the White Beret Drum and Bugle Corps when her son was a member. A love of music has always been center in her life, at the age of 16, she was the only child admitted to the Augusta Civic Symphony playing the clarinet. She also played the violin and had been involved with symphony orchestras in various areas and played in the orchestra for many local musicals. Betty had an unshakable faith and was a member of Redemption Hill Church. Her life focused on a love of God, family and country and the example she has set will be carried on by her family for generations to come.

Betty is survived by five children, Howard (Patti) Johnson of Minneapolis, MN, Dave Johnson (Nancy Naylor) of Iron Mountain, MI, James (Mindy) Johnson of Oconto Falls, WI, Laurene "Rene" (Jeff) Gustafson of Iron Mountain, MI, Ava Johnson (Mark Mitchell) of Kingsford and a very special niece, considered a daughter, Linda (Al) Westman of Quinnesec. Additionally, Betty has many beloved grandchildren & great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Betty was preceded in death by her husband, Lee H. Johnson in 1999; an infant son, David Johnson and two brothers, James and David Hollingsworth.

Visitation will be held from 2:00 to 4:00 pm on Tuesday, February 25, 2014 at Redemption Hill Church in Kingsford. A memorial service will follow at 4:00pm on Tuesday at the church. Rev. Ronald Wolfe will officiate. Burial will be in the

Quinnesec Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial will be established in Betty's memory

Condolences to the family Martha E. "Betty" Johnson may be expressed online at [www.ernashfuneralhomes.com](http://www.ernashfuneralhomes.com)

The family has entrusted the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home with the arrangements.

# Cemetery Details

## Quinnesec Cemetery

Menominee Street  
Quinnesec, MI 49876

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB **25**. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Redemption Hill  
332 S. Carpenter Ave.  
Kingsford, MI 49802

## Memorial Service

FEB **25**. 4:00 PM (CT)

Redemption Hill  
332 S. Carpenter Ave.  
Kingsford, MI 49802

# Tribute Wall

GO

“ Another great American has passed on to a better place. We cherish many fond memories of Lee and Betty and the Johnson family. If there is any way we, or any of your friends in Scouting, can assist you during this trying time, please call on us. Gary and Evelyn Olson

---

**Gary Olson** - February 26, 2014 at 04:35 PM

SS

“ My thoughts and prayers are with your family. Betty was such a sweet woman and I count myself blessed to have known her even if it was just a little. Praise God that we will be able to see her again in Glory!

Love,  
Stephanie Stevens

---

**Stephanie Stevens** - February 25, 2014 at 09:29 AM

NC

“ Sorry For your loss Jen my prayer's & thoughts are with you.

---

**Natoi Coles** - February 24, 2014 at 11:42 PM

NC

“ Natoi Coles lit a candle in memory of Martha "Betty" Johnson



---

**Natoi Coles** - February 24, 2014 at 11:41 PM

KF

“ Your family has been, and will continue to be blessed by the incredible life of this remarkable woman. Thank you for sharing the wonderful stories and memories with those of us who were not able to forge a friendship with such an endearing soul. Our thoughts and prayers will be continuous, and sincere throughout this difficult time. Know that each and every one of you are loved both here on earth, and now too in Heaven.

---

**Kimberly Massicotte and Family** - February 24, 2014 at 08:28 PM

DS

“ To the Family... Our prayers are with you. She was a loving person and it shows in the family she helped raise. May God bless.

---

**Darrel & Peggy Smith** - February 24, 2014 at 05:56 PM

CJ

“ You are all in my prayers. I know how important Grandma Betty was to each of you. Lots of love, Cori Johnson

---

**Cori Johnson** - February 24, 2014 at 11:43 AM

MO

“ To the Family of Betty....I came to know her thru her Granddaughter Heidi marrying my brother John and what a kind, lovely lady she was.

*Always so pleasant. I know you all thought the world of her and I can understand why. Please accept our condolences at this sad time.*

*Gods Blessings to your entire family.*

*Mary R. Oman  
Duane Hongisto*

---

**Mary Oman** - February 24, 2014 at 08:20 AM

MO

“ *Mary Oman lit a candle in memory of Martha "Betty" Johnson*



---

**Mary Oman** - February 24, 2014 at 08:18 AM

DB

“ *Dear Howard & Family*

*So sorry for the loss of your mother. My deepest sympathy to you and your entire family.*

*Sincerely*

*Dahly Bosley*

---

**Dahly Bosley** - February 23, 2014 at 09:11 AM

LA

“ Aunt Betty was such an inspiration to not only her family but to everyone she met. She was such a special person and we will miss her so much as will everyone who knew her. We will keep her family in our thoughts and prayers. We love you.

*Lynn Allen & Family*

*Alice Peteet*

*Karen Smith & Family*

---

**Lynn Allen** - February 22, 2014 at 09:58 AM

LA

“ Lynn Allen lit a candle in memory of Martha "Betty" Johnson



---

**Lynn Allen** - February 22, 2014 at 09:47 AM