



Cordelia Johnson

January 8, 1906 - February 14, 2010

Cordelia "Cordie" Kilbourne Johnson, 104, of Avery Heights, Hartford, widow of Charles A. Johnson, passed away Sunday February 14, 2010 at the Hospital of Central CT in New Britain. A New Britain native, daughter of the late Edward Osgood Kilbourne and Ellen Wells Kilbourne, she was a former Kensington resident for 50 years, moving to Hartford in 1991. Cordie was a graduate of New Britain High School, Class of 1923, and of the Connecticut College for Women in New London. She was an English Teacher at Berlin High School for 20 years, retiring in 1974; had formerly worked for the New Britain Welfare Department; and later worked part time at the Peck Memorial Library in Kensington. She was a member of the Kensington Congregational Church; she worked for a supporting committee of the Berlin Visiting Nurse Association and also helped organize the Library at Avery Heights.

Surviving is a son, R. Wells Johnson of Brunswick, Maine; two daughters, Barbara Riss and her husband Walter of Greenvale, Long Island, NY; and Karin Herdey and her husband Hellmut of Yorktown, VA; eight grandchildren, six great grandchildren; several nieces and nephews. Besides her husband Charles, she was predeceased by a brother, Wells Kilbourne and a granddaughter, Dawn Herdey.

A Memorial Service will be held Saturday February 27, 2010 2 PM at Avery Heights, 705 New Britain Avenue, Hartford. There are no calling hours. In lieu

of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Kensington Congregational Church, 312 Percival Avenue, Kensington, CT 06037 or to the Peck Memorial Library, 240 Kensington Road, Kensington, CT 06037. The Carlson Funeral Home, New Britain is assisting the family with arrangements. Please share a memory or note of sympathy by clicking on "Condolences" at the bottom of this page.

Tribute Wall

MJ

“*Cordilia Johnson was our neighbor on Percival Ave. She watched my children play in the back yard and enjoyed giving the girls m&m's and saving wish bones for them to break. She was such a kind soul and I visited her at Avery House. She came to mind tonight and I googled her to find she had passed. She will always be a very special lady and neighbor and I know that God has her in his loving arms. God Bless You Cordelia. You were such a blessing to us as a neighbor and friend.*

Mary-Ellen Johnson - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JS

“*My dear Aunt Cordie was one of my most favorite people to see when visiting my grandmother, Helen Whitaker, at Silver Bay. I would sit with Aunt Cordie, Grandma Helen and Aunt Janet on the porch at Cherry Cottage where Cordie would sparkle the air with her laughter and dry humor. Always smiling, I remember Cordie for being insightful and smart. I dearly miss that place and time. There weren't better people on the planet during those summer days of my youth.*

Jeanne Whitaker Shammah - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ *What a wonderful woman!*

I was Mrs. Johnson's student in the late 1960,s . I had her for English for 2 years at Berlin High school. Years later would see her at the Library helping me and so many others. In more recent years I would run into while doing estate work for others at Avery Heights. She always had a smile , a love of Life and a love of words... So here are a few words from a Berlin Poet that I learned about in her class so many years ago..... The world is full of poetry. The air is living with its spirit; and the waves dance to the music of its melodies, and sparkle in its brightness.

James Gates Percival

The air sparkled with her spirit and brightness. We who were fortunate enough to knew her all share in that gift and will continue too. Mrs Johnson made a difference.

I'm a teacher and have been for 37 years. How lucky we all where to know her.

*My deepest sympathy for your loss,
John Frink*

John Frink - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

IL

“ I met Cordie about 10 years ago when she was looking for a volunteer to help with the Avery Library. A friendship grew and we often had lunch together in her apartment because she said she didn't want to forget how to cook. What fun we had and what great conversations took us to many different subjects. She was a wonderful person, kind, considerate, helpful and always interested in what was going on. As a leader among the Avery residents she will be greatly missed, and I will miss her as a dear, dear friend. Unfortunately I will not be at her service because we have been in Florida and won't be home in time. God bless her wonderful memory.

Iris Larsson - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

LK

“ I was your Mom's hairdresser for many many years in Berlin. I loved hearing of her many travels and her family. She was such an interesting woman. My condolences to your family.

Linda Kozlenko - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ Dear Family, I remember Cordie as a wonderful, upbeat teacher at Berlin High. I was young and unsure of my role there, but Cordie and Phyllis Deming were my role models for my future years of teaching. Please accept my heartfelt condolences. You were blessed to have had her all these years! Judith Cowell

Judith Lido Cowell - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM