



Mr. Johnny McKay Cherry Jr.

February 11, 1947 - July 11, 2024

John McKay “Johnny” Cherry Jr., 77, of Tallahassee, FL, passed away peacefully, Thursday, July 11, 2024. A Celebration of Life will be held on Monday, July 15, 2024, at 11:00AM at Beggs Funeral Home in Madison, FL with Pastor Wade Moran officiating. Interment will be at Oak Ridge Cemetery immediately following. The family will receive guests from 10:00AM – 11:00AM, Monday, July 15, 2024, at Beggs Funeral Home (235 NW Orange Avenue, Madison, FL 32340).

Johnny was born February 11, 1947, in Madison, Florida and grew up there. He spent most of his adult life in Tallahassee, before retiring and living in Lakemont, Georgia in his beloved North Georgia Mountains. He is predeceased by his parents John and Winifred Cherry, his sister Mary Ann “Sissy” McClune, his sister-in-law Pamela Agner Cherry, and his brother-in-law Carlton Wells. He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Gloria Gay Cherry, his son Jay Cherry, his daughter in love Jessica Cherry, his pride and joy, Jacob Cherry (his grandson), his loving brothers Keith Cherry and Bill Cherry (Becky), his sister-in-law Joyce Gay Wells, and many nieces and nephews. He also leaves behind “The Group”, a close-knit group of friends who are like family, who shared many vacations and fun times together as they raised their families in Tallahassee over the years.

Johnny retired from the State of Florida after 35 years of distinguished service

with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. While he had many roles throughout his life, such as husband, father, father in love, brother, uncle, and friend, the role he cherished most was being “Pap” to his grandson Jacob. They shared trips to the Smokey Mountains, Jeep rides on the mountain, and throwing rocks together in the river. During his retirement in North Georgia, he enjoyed serving as part of the HIM “Home Improvement Ministry” of Clayton Baptist Church assisting families in need with home repairs, and at the Rabun Christian Food Ministries. In his younger years it wasn’t uncommon to see him in the driveway of a friend or co-worker in the evening or during the weekends helping them with car repairs or fixing something in their house to help them out. If you knew Johnny well, you know he had a heart to help others. He was always present for his family and supported them with all the love and time he could give.

In honor of Johnny, who was not fond of a coat and tie, we ask everyone to dress comfortably for the celebration of life and graveside.

In lieu of flowers, contributions would be appreciated to Emerge Church of Tallahassee, the Home Improvement Ministry (H.I.M.) of Clayton (Georgia) First Baptist Church, or the Rabun Christian Food Ministries of Rabun County, Georgia.

For any questions, please call Beggs Funeral Home – Madison Chapel at (850) 973-2258. Condolences may be left on our website at beggsfuneral.com.

Cemetery Details

OAK RIDGE CEMETERY

MADISON, FL 32340

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL **15**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (est)

Beggs Funeral Home - Madison Chapel
235 NW Orange Avenue
Madison, FL 32340
(850) 973-2258
tjbeggsjr@gmail.com
<http://beggsfuneral.com/>

Celebration of Life

JUL **15**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Beggs Funeral Home - Madison Chapel
235 NW Orange Avenue
Madison, FL 32340
(850) 973-2258
tjbeggsjr@gmail.com
<http://beggsfuneral.com/>

Interment

JUL 15 (ET)

OAK RIDGE CEMETERY
MADISON, FL 32340

Tribute Wall

RW

“ A contribution has been made to Rabun Christian Food Ministry in memory of John. He will be missed. May God grant Gloria and the family the peace that surpasses understanding when needed most during this season of grief.

*Rick & Jan Woolbright
Long Mountain*

Rick Woolbright - July 16, 2024 at 03:19 PM

KN

“ Kathy Nelson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Johnny McKay Cherry Jr.



Kathy Nelson - July 15, 2024 at 04:59 PM

DA

“ I'm so sorry to see this notice. I knew John from work at the Department of Environmental Protection. He was a great person to his employees and co-workers. His friendly, positive attitude and willingness to be helpful was always present. Best wishes to the family for his loss.

Dale Adams

Dale Adams - July 14, 2024 at 05:08 PM

JS

I only met Johnny once but I heard love from Gloria when we worked at TCC. My thoughts and prayers are with you, Gloria and your family. God's peace will comfort you. Joan Y. Stallworth

Joan Youngblood Stallworth - July 19, 2024 at 04:49 PM

MK

“ I am so sorry to hear of John's passing. He was one in a million and the best boss I ever had the pleasure of working for. He challenged me in different ways and my fondest memories of my career with DEP are of him. Thanks JC! My heartfelt condolences to Gloria, Jay, Jess and Jacob. He was so proud of his family. The streets of gold are so much brighter now. He will be missed by so many.

Marilyn Krupp - July 14, 2024 at 01:32 PM

PG

*“ Gloria and Jay I am sorry for your loss. I always loved talking to Johnny at our reunions. He and I were going through Chemo treatments at the same time so we had a lot to talk about. I hope to see you Monday.
Love you.
Pat*

Pat Gill - July 13, 2024 at 11:50 AM

BG

*“ Gloria and Family,
We are so sorry for your loss. You and the family are in our prayers at this time. We love you. Butch and Mary Gay*

Butch and Mary Gay - July 13, 2024 at 08:08 AM

DB

“ To Mr Cherry's loved ones,
we are so very sorry for your loss. John has been and will continue
to be missed here in our Long Mountain community. Please know
you have our deepest sympathy and are in our prayers. May God
give you peace, comfort and strength.

*CT & Deb Berryman
Long Mtn, Lakemont, GA*

Deb Berryman - July 12, 2024 at 08:04 PM