

OBITUARIES

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Deadline for print publication:

Tuesday publication deadlines Monday, 10 am EST
Saturday publication deadlines Thursday, 12 pm EST

Jack Denny Johnson, 95



Jack Denny Johnson, 95, of Stanford, KY passed away on Wednesday, July 1, 2026 at Ephraim McDowell Regional Medical Center in Danville, KY. Born on December 27, 1930 to the late George Denny Johnson and the late Artie Wall Johnson.

Survivors include his loving wife of 71 years, Hartese Hatter Johnson; one daughter, Tamara Dee Johnson (Berkley Moore) of Stanford; two grandchildren, Eric Henderson Albritton of Columbia, SC and Roxanne White of Stanford; and one sister, Myrtle Duttera of Newark, OH; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by his daughter, Dr. Teresa Ann Johnson; fourteen siblings, Louada Smith, Maxine Delk, Elvis Durham, Terrill Durham, Carlis Durham, Della Johnson Durham, Chelsea Durham, Mary Johnson Woods, Stella Johnson Hamilton, Mack Johnson, Ervin Johnson, Elvin Durham, Earl Durham and Curtis Durham.

Jack Denny Johnson was born in Hustonville, Kentucky, in the family home on his parents' farm. He was the twelfth child in a blended family of fourteen children born to George and Artie Johnson, hardworking Christians who were respected throughout the rural community for their generosity, leadership, and unwavering faith. Jack Denny attended Moccasin Elementary School and graduated from McKinney High School, where he excelled in both basketball and baseball. His athletic ability earned him a basketball scholarship to Campbellsville College. He later attended Bethel College in Bethel, Tennessee. He received his Master's Degree from Eastern Kentucky University, completed his Rank I studies, and pursued postgraduate studies at the University of Kentucky.

He proudly served his country in the United States Army with the famed 101st Division ("Screaming Eagles") and was stationed in La Rochelle, France.

A pillar of the Lincoln County community, Jack Denny devoted his life to public education. He served as a coach, teacher, and superintendent of schools in his native county. He also served as Superintendent of Burgin Independent Schools for ten years. As Superintendent of Lincoln County Schools, he oversaw one of the most significant periods in the district's history. He was superintendent when the new consolidated Lincoln County High School opened in 1974 and was instrumental in designing and overseeing the construction of the school's gymnasium after county voters approved a tax levy. More than fifty years later, his vision continues to benefit Lincoln County as the facility annually welcomes thousands of visitors during the Twelfth Region Basketball Tournament. Following his retirement from education in 1983, Jack Denny continued serving the community through PBK Bank. He most recently served as Chairman of the Board of Directors and was the bank's largest individual shareholder. During his tenure, he was a strong supporter of WPBK-FM, recognizing the important role local radio plays in serving the community.

His faith was the foundation of his life. Jack Denny was a faithful member of Stanford Baptist Church for more than fifty years, where he served on the Elders Committee, worked as a financial advisor, and faithfully taught Sunday School. He also dedicated his time to numerous civic organizations, including the Stanford Rotary Club, McKinney Masonic Lodge No. 631, and the Ruritan Community Club. Throughout his lifetime of service, Jack Denny received numerous honors recognizing his leadership and dedication. Among these were being named the 2025 Lincoln County Citizen of the Year, receiving the PBK Bank Award of Excellence for his service from January 1999 through December 2025, receiving the Masonic Service Certificate from the Brethren of McKinney Lodge No. 631, and being inducted into the Burgin Independent Schools Hall of Fame in February 2025. Outside of his work and community service, Jack Denny and his beloved wife, Hartese, spent more than thirty winters at their condominium in Fort Myers Beach, Florida. While there, he enjoyed the fellowship of many friends as a proud member of the Tiki Hut Liars Club.

Jack Denny was a dear friend to many, always offering an encouraging word, thoughtful advice, and a helping hand. He loved his family, friends, neighbors, and his community. Through his leadership, integrity, generosity, and servant's heart, he worked tirelessly to make Lincoln County a better place to live. His legacy will continue to be felt for generations through the schools he helped shape, the organizations he strengthened, and the countless lives he touched.

Visitation will be held on Sunday, July 5, 2026 at The Stuart Underwood Auditorium at Lincoln County High School from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The funeral service will be held on Monday, July 6, 2026 at 12:00 p.m. with Rev. Max Hester, Dr. Pamela Combs, Pastor Steve Dismuke and Rev. Irene Henderson Albritton officiating. Burial and graveside service will follow at Buffalo Springs Cemetery in Stanford, KY.

Full Military Honors will be presented by Caswell Saufley Post 18.

Active Pallbearers are Mack Johnson, Eric Ralston, Bruce Edgington, Jeff Durham, Jackson Sims, Joey Milburn, Berkley Moore, Neil Johnson, Jared Long and Terry Hatter.

Honorary Pallbearers are Paul Long, Marilyn Barlow, Mike Barlow, Joda McGuffey, Howard Wagner, Gary Johnson, Dennis Martin, James Hogue and Jack Coleman.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Girls' High School Basketball Scholarship Fund, in memory of Teresa Ann Johnson, C/O PBK Bank, P.O. Box 366, Stanford, KY 40484 or to the Logan's Fort Foundation, P.O. Box 1775, Stanford, KY 40484.

Pierce Lenton Hinkston, 20



Pierce Lenton Hinkston, 20, of Stanford, KY passed away on Thursday, July 2, 2026. Born on February 25, 2006 in Lexington, KY to Bryan Lenton Hinkston and Sara Ledford Slone.

Pierce was a 2024 graduate of Danville High School, where he was a member of the wrestling team. Pierce found joy in many hobbies and interests. He was an avid gamer who loved spending time with friends online, but he was just as happy at home practice wrestling with his little brother, creating memories that his family will always treasure. He had a special place in his heart for animals and loved them all, especially his faithful dog, Stan, who was a constant companion. He was also a lover of cats. Those who knew Pierce will remember his playful personality and the way he loved to pick on and aggravate his brothers and sisters, always with a smile that let them know it came from a place of love. Pierce also had a creative side. He enjoyed photography and appreciated capturing moments and the beauty he found in everyday life. In the kitchen, he loved to cook and was always eager to experiment with new recipes and unique dishes. Whether preparing something at home or eating out, Pierce never hesitated to order the most expensive or adventurous item on the menu, always excited to experience something new.

Survivors include his mother, Sara Slone (Clay) of Danville, KY; father, Bryan Hinkston (Sara Young) of Lebanon, KY; five siblings, Bryce Hill, Gabe Hinkston, Raelynn Slone, Kayla Slone and Kirsten Slone; maternal grandmother, Cindy Bates (Rod) of Stanford; maternal grandfather, Charles Ledford (Sheila) of Crab Orchard, KY; paternal grandmother, Diana Honaker of Florida; maternal great-grandmothers, Betty Scott and Francene Ledford; two aunts, Catrina Murphy Lake and Rachel Anthony (Jonathan); six cousins, Ashlyn Murphy Gay (Zach), Anna Kate Murphy, Audrey Murphy, Eva Anthony, Layla Anthony and Brooks Anthony; and bonus grandparents, Johnnie and Lynn Slone.

He is preceded in death by his uncle, Chris Hinkston; and cousin, Alexis Murphy.

A one-day service will be held on Tuesday, July 7, 2026 at Spurlin Funeral Home in Stanford, KY. Visitation will be from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The funeral service will begin at 1:00 p.m. with Bro. Vola Brown officiating. Burial will follow at Buffalo Springs Cemetery.

Active Pallbearers are Bryce Hill, Gabe Hinkston, Pierce Johnson, Lee Abrams, Samuel Gagnon, Zach Gay.

Wilma Jean Moss Davis, 89

Wilma Jean Moss Davis, 89, of Lancaster, passed away Sunday, June 28, 2026 at her home. She was born November 26, 1936 in Lancaster to the late William Ball & Anna Elveree Carter Moss. Surviving is her loving husband of 70 years of marriage, Hugh Davis of Lancaster; two sons, Timothy Carter Davis (Renee) of Lancaster and Ricky Wayne Davis of Lancaster; a sister, Virginia Rogers of Florida; five grandchildren, Collin Davis (Naomi) of Williamsburg, KY; Canaan Berg (Connor) of Mt. Sterling, Shea Davis of Lancaster, Caleb Davis of Lancaster, and Ty Davis of Lancaster; a great grandchild, Evangeline Davis; a daughter in-law, Pamela Carr; and many cousins, nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews. Funeral services will be 1:00 pm Monday, July 6, 2026 at Spurlin Funeral Home with Bro. Val McCord and Bro. Derrel Cone officiating. Visitation will be from 11:00 am until service time. Burial will follow the funeral service at Camp Nelson National Cemetery. Spurlin Funeral Home entrusted with her arrangements. Wwww.Spurlinfuneralhomelancaster.com

DEATH NOTICES

Michael Dale May, 55, of Science Hill, died June 29, 2026.
Mary Lucille McAnelly, 95, of Liberty, died July 1, 2026.
Irene Hendricks, 63, of Lancaster, died July 2, 2026.
Teresa Rakes Lewis, 51, of Harrodsburg, died July 1, 2026.
Justin Red Davis, 51, of Danville, died June 22, 2026.
Beulah Hester, 98, of Danville, died July 2, 2026.
Ralph Simpson, 71, of Danville, died June 29, 2026.
John Alan Fulton, 72, of Danville, died July 3, 2026.
Michael Bernath, 70, of Danville, died June 25, 2026.
Douglas M. Martin, 68, of Stanford, died July 2, 2026.
Pedro "Pete" Antonio Ferrer, 70, of Liberty, died July 2, 2026.

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The Bible and the Declaration of Independence

2 Corinthians 3: 17 "Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty."

The word "Creator" in the Declaration of Independence indicates God/Bible believing people. The parallels to Bible teachings, concepts and people connect the Bible to the Declaration.

King George III ruled Britain in from 1760 until 1820. Many of the early settlers in America from Britain thought of George as the Antichrist. The tyranny and excessive taxation levied against them led those first Americans to rebel against the King and Britain.

When unalienable (sometimes spelled inalienable) rights are held for ransom, people can be expected to rebel. Those rights are those explicitly given by God to every human He has created.

Those rights are considered by many to be "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." The statement in the Declaration of Independence, written by Thomas Jefferson clearly defines the American perspective.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights. Among those are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

God created man "In His own Image" (Genesis 1: 27) to be free; to have freedom of choice and freedom to pursue the lifestyle he desires. He did of course, in the Holy Bible give mankind guidelines to live by, but within those limitations/commandments, He made man free.

God gave Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden freedom. One of those freedoms was the freedom to sin just as He has given mankind the freedom to sin and He knew we would. He then planted the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. God had a plan.

Isaiah 5: 20 "Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!"

God destroyed all life on earth (Genesis 7) and Sodom (Genesis 19) for the same actions/sins that America is not only approving but promoting in today's society.

The Declaration of Independence, adopted July 4th, 1776, and signed August 2, 1776, set a course for America for these last 250 years. That course has been perverted but we do have a future.

While the Declaration does not specifically mention the Holy Bible, it does refer to "The Creator." This appears to be a monotheistic attitude and a reference to the ensuing freedom of religion and other basic human rights.

People leaving Ireland, England, and other European countries have been compared with the exodus from Egypt in the Book of Exodus. To escape the oppressive Egyptian Pharaoh, God sent Moses and his brother Aaron to lead the Hebrews from Egypt.

Certain American revolutionaries led the occupants of this new land to freedom from King George just as Joshua led the Israelites to victory over the Canaanites.

The oppression by the King could not be tolerated. At times, war is the only and final solution. Freedom is precious and sacred. It must be protected and at times that means it must be fought for.

King Saul in 1 Samuel was an evil king. 1 Samuel 15: 11 God said, "It repenteth me that I have set up Saul to be king: for he is turned back from following me, and hath not performed my commandments."

King George did not regard those who had left Europe for the New World as worthy of anything but his scorn. That included oppression, intimidation, and taxation. Comparing him to Saul seems to be a fair comparison.

A statement from Leviticus 25: 11 is "proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof." Those words are emblazoned on the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Those words and the bell are symbols of our free land and our determination to keep America free.

Galatians 3: 28 "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

Freedom and opportunity are rights of any American. Discrimination must not exist because of wealth (or lack of), race or gender. Our differences can be our strength or our demise. If we allow ourselves to be separated over our differences, perhaps we deserve to perish.

Proverbs 22: 2 "The rich and the poor meet together, the Lord is the maker of them all." Our Declaration of Independence does not provide for any differences in the governing of the people.

Acts 10: 34 "Then Peter opened his mouth, and said of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons." The founding fathers honored God in the document, the Declaration of Independence.

The Declaration and the Bible share concepts, philosophies, human rights, and divine justice. All in all, we can trace our way of life, our freedoms, and liberties to the Holy Bible.



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The Advocate-Messenger

<https://amnews.com/>

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Published Tuesday & Saturday
except on federal holidays
by BLUEGRASS NEWSMEDIA LLC
USPS 148260
Periodical postage paid at Danville, KY
©2025 The Advocate-Messenger
Postmaster: Send change of address forms
to: Advocate-Messenger
463 S. Fourth St., Danville, KY 40422

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