

# John Joe Johnson

August 5, 1960 – September 18, 2008

A funeral service for John Joe Johnson, 48, was conducted on Tuesday, September 23, 2008, at the First Christian Church in Wheatland, Wyoming, with Pastor Andy Gudahl officiating. Interment was in the Wheatland Cemetery.

He died Thursday, September 18, 2008, at Iverson Memorial Hospital in Laramie, Wyoming.

John was born August 5, 1960, in Ft. Collins, Colorado, the son of George and Clara (Shockley) Johnson. He was reared and educated in Ft. Collins and lived in Boise, Idaho, for a time before coming to Wheatland. John married Kimberly Dawn Walker on July 20, 1996. He started out with a lawn care business in Wheatland and then became the youth minister at First Christian Church in September of 2001. John loved kids and everyone called him "Papa John". He attended all the kid's ballgames, coached flag football and sometimes refereed. In February of 2007, the Mayor of the Town of Wheatland presented John with a plaque in recognition of his dedicated services to the community; for all his work through his ministry at First Christian Church and numerous other volunteer services to the community. He was instrumental in the success of the bus ministry at First Christian Church and was the founder and leader of "Faith-fest" held each summer in the City Park. He met teens in the "Pocket Park" for a time of prayer in the mornings and worked with the kids at the

"Hub" (a youth recreation center) in Wheatland. He had a reputation for "wacky" Christmas trees during the holidays. John or Papa John was an "all around" great man who was appreciated and loved by many.



John Johnson

Survivors include his wife, Kim of Wheatland; his mother, Clara Smith (Larry) of Wheatland; six children, Josh (Stacey) of Ft. Collins, Jake (Micah) of Denver, Colorado, Nichole (Tony), Jeremy, Nicholas, and Patricia all of Wheatland; three siblings, Sandra Blevins (Les) of Dumas, Texas, Kenny Johnson (Laura) of Ft. Collins, and Arlene Justice (Rick) of Loveland, Colorado; five grandchildren, Anthony, Chris, Jessica, Makayla, and Makenzie; and two great grandchildren, Eternity and Anthony III.

He was preceded in death by his father; a brother, Danny Johnson; and son, Gabe in 2002.

Serving as pallbearers were Anthony Johnson, Chris Johnson, Jamie Crush, John Miller, Kelly Jenkins, and Cody Powers.

Honorary pallbearers were Joey McDaniel, Phil Miller, Tony Johnson, Steve Budd, Gary Fales, Lee Shoop, Dan Cheser, Curtis Culver, and Al McCarty.

Memorials in memory of John to Platte Valley Bank, P.O. Box 337, Wheatland, Wyoming 82201 would be appreciated by the family.

Gorman Funeral Homes - Platte Chapel of Wheatland is in charge of the arrangements.