



## Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson

April 18, 1978 - April 15, 2026

Courtney Denise Johnson was born April 18, 1978, in Saginaw, Michigan to Carol & (the late) Felix Johnson. Courtney passed away on April 15, 2026, after a courageous two-year battle with pancreatic cancer. She fought with strength and determination until the very end, surrounded by the love of her family and closest friends.

Courtney moved to Oakland, California with her mother as a young child & spent her summers in Saginaw with her father. In 1989 at the age of 11 she decided to permanently relocate to Saginaw. She was a proud graduate of Bridgeport High School, Class of 1997, and went on to attend Eastern Michigan University. In 2018, she made her home in Sterling Heights, Michigan, where she built lasting friendships and meaningful connections.

Courtney was truly one of a kind. A self-proclaimed foodie and fashionista, she had a deep love for style that was undeniably inspired by her mother. She carried herself with confidence, boldness, and authenticity. Known for speaking her mind, Courtney was honest and fiercely opinionated. If you were close to her, you likely bumped heads with her at least once, but that was simply part of loving her. Her realness was unmatched.

She never met a stranger. Courtney had a rare gift for turning anyone she encountered into a friend, and her friends quickly became family. She was a

true social butterfly who loved to laugh and have fun. Her laughter was distinctive, unforgettable, and filled with life.

Courtney had no children but her heart was full. Her beloved cat, Ashton, and her dog, Bear, were like her babies, and she loved them deeply. In the final seven weeks of Courtney's life, she moved back to Saginaw to be closer to family & friends. During that time, they shared countless conversations, created lasting memories, and strengthened bonds that words cannot fully capture. Courtney loved deeply, lived boldly, and remained unapologetically herself through it all. There will never be another like her.

She leaves to cherish her memory her mother, Carol Johnson; brother, Phelan Johnson; nephew, Dallas Johnson; godsons, Royce Johnson and Robbiaun Vann; godmother, Maurdean Akers; and her loving aunts: Joyce Rivers (Saginaw, MI), Rose Hall (Saginaw, MI), Donna Sue Sanders (Saginaw, MI), Gladys Henry (Ypsilanti, MI), and Clara Robinson (West Point, MS). She also leaves many other relatives and friends, including special friends Angie "Niecy" Hilliard, Kezia Crump, Michea Biggins, Shatobrion "Toby" Draine, Warren Franklin, and Na'Kaja Reed; and her very dear childhood best friend and "sister," Brandi Bates-Johnson, along with a host of cousins and friends who became family.

Courtney was preceded in death by: her father, Felix Johnson; paternal grandparents, Troy and Bennie Johnson; and maternal grandparents, Jerome and Emma Brandon.

Courtney's presence will be deeply missed, but her spirit, laughter, and love will live on in all who knew her

The family will greet guests at 11:00 a.m.. A memorial service will take place at 12:00 p.m. on Monday, April 27, 2026 at Evans & Browne's Funeral Home,

441 N. Jefferson Ave., Saginaw, MI 48607. Bishop Larry Camel will officiate.

# Previous Events

## Family Hour

APR **27**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (EST)

Evans & Browne's Funeral Home  
441 N. Jefferson Avenue  
Saginaw, MI 48607  
(989) 754-0481  
evansbrownes@gmail.com  
<https://www.evansbrownesfuneralhome.com>

## Memorial Service

APR **27**. 12:00 PM (ET)

Evans & Browne's Funeral Home  
441 N. Jefferson Avenue  
Saginaw, MI 48607  
(989) 754-0481  
evansbrownes@gmail.com  
<https://www.evansbrownesfuneralhome.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Evans & Browne's Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson*



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**Browne's Mortuary** - April 27 at 11:37 AM

BB

“ Courtney...If tears could bring you back, you would be here right now because I have cried a river. If love could bring you back, you would be here because my love for you is infinite & eternal. We had/have a bond that can never be duplicated or broken. You were so much more than my friend; you were my sister. Regardless of time or space or circumstances, we were & still are, inseparable. When you left, a part of me went with you, but at the same time, a part of you continues to live on through me. I promise to do all the things we talked about. The "soft-life" you wanted...learning how to ballroom dance...having a quality, designer purse collection (you were serious about that one! Lol!) ...having an amazing husband that loves you like your father did, traveling, making memories & just enjoying life. I promise to get a cat & name it Courtney & spoil the hell out of it (inside joke) & I will do all those things in your honor. Not a day goes by that I don't think about you. I see your smile every time I close my eyes. I hear your voice & I feel your presence in my heart & soul. "Ten toes down" to infinity & beyond... I love you more than words can express. I pray that God showed you his glory & welcomed you with open arms and that you are now resting in eternal peace with your dad, your grandmother & your Pheonix, until we meet again.  
Loving you always & forever, your best friend & little sister, Brandi

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**Brandi Bates-Johnson** - May 22 at 12:31 PM

AG

“ Our deepest sympathy to the Johnson family. Comforting news is that the Creator of life has promised to restore the life of all those in his memory and sustain it so that they will never die again. God has promised everlasting life in Paradise to all who exercise faith in Jesus's sacrificial death!

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**Antonio Glenn** - May 20 at 03:51 PM

TR

“ Tracey lit a candle in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson



Tracey - May 15 at 05:01 PM

WB

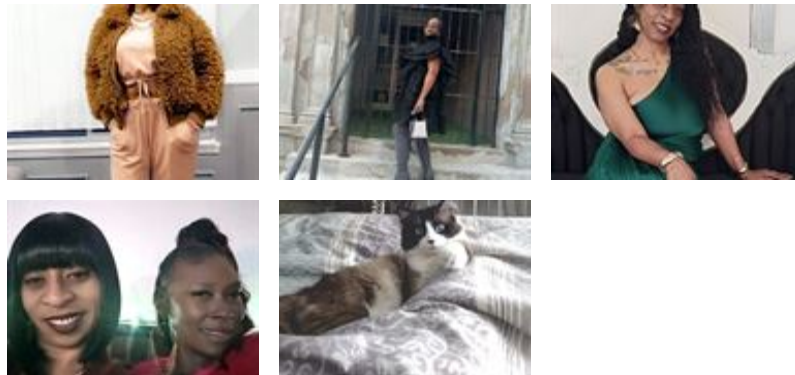
“ Walsetta Bennett lit a candle in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson



Walsetta Bennett - April 28 at 07:13 AM



“ 62 files added to the album Life Tributes



Browne's Mortuary - April 27 at 10:21 AM

YC

“ Yashica Campbell lit a candle in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson



Yashica Campbell - April 26 at 10:01 PM

BM

“ Phealan , sorry to hear about your sister Courtney sending deepest condolences to you and your family!!!! May God grant you comfort, strength and peace!!!!!!

Barbara McMillan-Hargrow - April 26 at 09:46 PM

DH

“ Dennis & Jerry Hall lit a candle in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson



Dennis & Jerry Hall - April 26 at 08:12 PM

BL

“ The Porterfield Family



Blessings - April 26 at 08:08 PM

RC

“ Courtney, you were more than a friend, you were family. I'm thankful for the impact you had on my life. Take your rest. You will be missed and forever loved.



Raven Williams Cuffee - April 25 at 01:11 PM

NR

“ Missing you deeply girl! Love you always and forever 💜💜!

Na’Kaja Reed - April 24 at 09:06 PM

SD

“ My condolences & prayers to the Johnson Family & friends



Sandra Dillard - April 24 at 05:30 PM

LH

“ Luther Harrell lit a candle in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson



Luther Harrell - April 24 at 02:24 PM

LF

“ My Deepest condolences goes out to the families of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson . Gone much to soon God makes no mistakes , Courtney has gone home to be with her Father approximately eight months after his home going “Mr. Felix Johnson “ both of them has gone home to be with their Lord and Savior where there will be no more sickness and pain . Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson will truly be missed by many .



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**Luther Harrell & Family** - April 24 at 02:23 PM

JJ

“ Sending condolences and prayers to all family and friends. God will take care of you!



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**JoeAnn Jackson** - April 24 at 01:52 PM

RM

“ Will always remember the smile and love you showed me growing up! Praying for comfort and peace for all who knew your beautiful soul!



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**Rose Martin** - April 24 at 10:23 AM

MJ

“ *Melanie Jones-Waller lit a candle in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson*



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**Melanie Jones-Waller** - April 24 at 08:22 AM

AW

“ *Amy Hudspeth Whitson lit a candle in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson*



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**Amy Hudspeth Whitson** - April 24 at 06:01 AM

SH

“ *Schronda Hill lit a candle in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson*



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**Schronda Hill** - April 24 at 04:55 AM

ST

“ *Shirley Taylor lit a candle in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson*



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**shirley Taylor** - April 24 at 01:43 AM

LS

“ *Phelan and family,  
You are all in my thoughts and prayers.*

Lisa Shaw - April 23 at 07:24 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the  
family of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson.*



April 23 at 05:54 PM



“ *A [Memorial  
Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson.*

April 23 at 05:54 PM



“ *Sincere condolences to Phelan and Family.*



Mary Lawrence - April 23 at 05:27 PM

MB

“ *Courtney, you were more than a friend you were my little sister.  
Growing up on Driftwood we had some of the best memories, those  
I will always keep in my heart. Rest well sister and know that I will  
always miss and love you. RIH... love always Marla. ☐*

Marla Bates - April 23 at 04:35 PM

CP

*We're so very sadden over the loss of ur sister Courtney, praying that GOD will comfort you in ur time of sorrow, sending love to you n the family. Earnest, Carolyn and Earnest jr & Timothy Parker ur cuzzins 🙏🙏🙏💔💔💔🕊*

**Carolyn R. Parker** - April 23 at 05:22 PM

CM

“ *Prayers to the family*



**Christian Murphy** - April 23 at 03:57 PM

CL

“ *Cherone Lawrence lit a candle in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson*



**Cherone Lawrence** - April 23 at 03:47 PM

CW

“ *To Phelan & the families. I'm so sorry to hear about your sister & I want to express my deepest condolences to you. May God bless you all Cookey Williams*



**Cookey Williams** - April 23 at 03:46 PM



“ James Johnson lit a candle in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson



James Johnson - April 23 at 12:45 PM

CP

“ Carrie Polk lit a candle in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson



Carrie Polk - April 23 at 12:25 PM

NI

“ Courtney not a day goes by that I don't miss you and think about you. I wish things were different but I know you no longer in pain now. My heart hurt so bad knowing I can't talk to you hear your voice or laugh and talk any more I MISS YOU MY DEAR FRIEND/SISTER 🍫🌹🥹

Niecy - April 23 at 11:31 AM

HG

“ Condulences and prayers for the family and friends



Henry & Brenda Gibbs - April 22 at 05:46 PM

MS

“ *Mary Ann Stewart sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson*



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**Mary Ann Stewart** - April 22 at 11:14 AM

BH

“ *Bobby Haynes lit a candle in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson*



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**Bobby Haynes** - April 22 at 10:22 AM

JG

“ *Johnny And Shirley Green lit a candle in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson*



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**Johnny and Shirley Green** - April 21 at 05:33 PM

GK

“ *Courtney was a very sweet person that was kind and caring. I worked with her at HSC but knew her through family.*



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**Grace Kemp** - April 21 at 04:09 PM

SD

“ *MY COURTNEY* Where do I start. First off I am really gonna miss you. All the times we shared, the laughter, the trips you was there with me through it all. We taught each other a lot of things but living without each other I wasn't prepared for that cause you was always here for me no matter what. I'm gonna miss your laugh and just the special times and moments with the kids. I'm so lost for words but just know we will never forget you and what you meant to us your baby cousin Toby



Shatobrione Draine - April 21 at 02:09 PM

CM

So sorry to hear of Courtney's passing, may God give you strength and comfort to get through this difficult time, my prayers are with you and know I'm here if you need me 🙏❤️🙏

Clairee McMillon-Sanders - April 23 at 08:23 AM

YC

“ *Yashica Campbell lit a candle in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson*



Yashica Campbell - April 20 at 09:37 PM

BH

“ Bobby Haynes lit a candle in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson



Bobby Haynes - April 20 at 08:03 PM



“ You were someone I looked up on the block and I will always cherish our childhood memories. You will be missed. Ebony McKethern



Ebony McKethern - April 20 at 01:27 PM

DA

“ Debara Hinton Abdullah lit a candle in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson



Debara Hinton Abdullah - April 20 at 11:16 AM

AH

“ Aretha Hairston sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson



Aretha Hairston - April 20 at 10:54 AM

MR

“ Courtney your 48th birthday party was everything you wanted rest in peace.. I will miss you and your laughter.. when it get quiet I hear you!.. Aunt Dottie (As you call me)  
Praying for you Phelan 🙏❤️🙏



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**Marie Robinson** - April 20 at 10:49 AM



“ Phelan so sorry for your loss. 🙏



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**Mary Lawrence** - April 20 at 06:49 AM

RA

“ Rachida lit a candle in memory of Ms.  
Courtney Denise Johnson



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**Rachida** - April 19 at 06:30 PM

DP

“ Dorothy Price-Omar lit a candle in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson



Dorothy Price-Omar - April 19 at 11:52 AM

NG

“ Nina Gardner lit a candle in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson



Nina Gardner - April 19 at 10:21 AM

NG

*Rest in peace cousin*

Nina Gardner - April 19 at 10:21 AM

HF

“ Helton Family lit a candle in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson



Helton Family - April 18 at 10:35 PM

SD

“ Stacy Duran-shells sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson



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**Stacy Duran-shells** - April 18 at 06:50 PM

JB

“ Condolences Carol, Phelan and other family members. Truly a life cut too short.

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**Jacci Bates** - April 18 at 12:50 PM

JM

“ James Punkin Magee lit a candle in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson



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**James Punkin Magee** - April 18 at 11:00 AM

TH

“ Tina Marie Houze lit a candle in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson



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**Tina Marie Houze** - April 18 at 10:51 AM

LT

“ *Linda Troutmon lit a candle in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson*



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**Linda Troutmon** - April 18 at 09:04 AM

DR

“ *Debbie Rogers lit a candle in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson*



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**Debbie Rogers** - April 18 at 12:24 AM

AL

“ *Annie Lowery lit a candle in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson*



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**Annie Lowery** - April 18 at 12:15 AM

AJ

“ *Amelia Johnson sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson*



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**Amelia Johnson** - April 17 at 07:19 PM

MP

“ We were both 1996 Bridgeport graduates. She was a kind person, always polite and smiling. We reconnected years ago on Facebook. I just chatted with her about my May vacation plans and know she was excited about her upcoming birthday party. I am still in shock about her passing but know she is no longer in pain and is reunited with Felix. Micah Prout



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**Micah Prout** - April 17 at 06:32 PM

VR

“ Sending prayers and condolences to the family



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**Veronica Roby** - April 17 at 02:42 PM

VM

“ Faye and the entire McNair family deeply feel the loss of Courtney. You are in our prayers.



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**VENITA F MCNAIR** - April 17 at 01:28 PM

DC

“ *Deborah Champion lit a candle in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson*



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**Deborah Champion** - April 17 at 01:23 PM

EF

“ *Ethel And Robert Shaheed & Family lit a candle in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson*



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**Ethel and Robert Shaheed & Family** - April 17 at 01:17 PM

NF

“ *Nick And Zarinah Curry & Family lit a candle in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson*



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**Nick and Zarinah Curry & Family** - April 17 at 01:16 PM

VA

“ *Valice Jackson Afolabi and family*



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**Valice Afolabi** - April 17 at 11:52 AM

NT

“ *Nola Taylor And Charles Taylor lit a candle in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson*



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**Nola Taylor and Charles Taylor** - April 17 at 10:09 AM

TM

“ *Tedi Morris sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson*



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**Tedi Morris** - April 16 at 11:08 PM

TM

“ *No words can express the depth of our sorrow on the loss of your dad Felix, and now your sister, Courtney Denise. May they both Rest in Peace. Know that you are in our prayers. The Morris Family, Diamonddale Drive.*

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**Tedi Morris** - April 16 at 11:06 PM

AF

“ *Annie Ruth Speight Fuller lit a candle in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson*



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**Annie Ruth Speight Fuller** - April 16 at 11:05 PM

LB

“ *Linda Brown sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson*



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**Linda Brown** - April 16 at 10:55 PM

LB

“ *Lorraine Bond-Riley sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson*



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**Lorraine Bond-Riley** - April 16 at 10:03 PM

LB

“ *Lorraine Bond-Riley sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson*



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**Lorraine Bond-Riley** - April 16 at 08:52 PM

YS

“ *Yvonne Sanders lit a candle in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson*



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**Yvonne Sanders** - April 16 at 08:42 PM



“ Elizabeth Hudspeth lit a candle in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson



Elizabeth Hudspeth - April 16 at 08:34 PM



“ Joe Lowery lit a candle in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson



Joe Lowery - April 16 at 07:38 PM



“ I'm so deeply sorry for your loss. Please know that you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers during this incredibly difficult time. May God bring you comfort, strength, and peace in the days ahead. 🙏



Rakia Banks - April 16 at 07:07 PM



“ I'm so deeply sorry for your loss. Please know that you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers during this incredibly difficult time. May God bring you comfort, strength, and peace in the days ahead. 🙏



Rakia Banks - April 16 at 07:05 PM

CW

“ Courtney Wrenn lit a candle in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson



Courtney Wrenn - April 16 at 06:46 PM

CD

“ Corliss Dawkins lit a candle in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson



Corliss Dawkins - April 16 at 06:23 PM

MT

“ Mr.Phelian Johnson and Family & extended families.were still praying 🙏 for you during the transition of your father just about 8 months ago a man who i consider family and his children as well.we are very sad by the loss of your sister. May you find peace, comfort and strength during this difficult time.god is with us in times like these.He promised not to leave nor forsake us Keep trusting in the Lord.weeping may endure for a while but we can rejoice in the morning.You are in our thoughts and prayers god has spoken amen. Mr.& Mrs.Terry and Denise Triplett and family,my daughter Terri Triplett her children Mark Stephens and Terri Stephens my grandchildren (Peace) May your sister rest in eternal peace.❤️U



Mr.& Mrs.Terry and Denise Triplett - April 16 at 04:23 PM

CM

*So sorry to hear of Courtney's passing, my sincere condolences go out to you Phelian and the entire Johnson/extended families, my prayers are with you and know that I'm here if and when ever you need me. May God give you strength and comfort as you journey through these difficult times. God is able 🙏❤️🙏*

**Clairee McMillon-Sanders** - April 16 at 08:16 PM

MT

“ *Mr. & Mrs. Terry And Denise Triplett lit a candle in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson*



**Mr. & Mrs. Terry and Denise Triplett** - April 16 at 03:50 PM



“ *Joanie Williams sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Courtney Denise Johnson*



**Joanie Williams** - April 16 at 12:06 PM