



Brad William Johnson

October 24, 1959 - February 18, 2022

Brad William Johnson, beloved husband, father and cowboy, was called home to his Lord on February 18th, 2022. A graveside service will be held at Perryman Cemetery, February 27th at 2:00 pm. Anyone who knew Brad knows how difficult it is to sum up the details of his life on a single page.

Born to Grove and Virginia Johnson on October 24th, 1959 in Tucson Arizona, Brad was a true renaissance man. He was not only interested in all life had to offer, but was gifted in it as well. Although he was taken too early, he lived life to the fullest. The son of a horse trainer, Brad grew up with a passion and love for the outdoors, and his younger years would see him hunting and competing in rodeo whenever he had the chance.

Brad started his professional rodeo career in 1984, and the circuit would lead him to Dallas, Texas, where he would meet the love of his life, Laurie. They married October 11th, 1986, and were married for 35 very full years.

While on the professional rodeo circuit, Brad was recruited by a movie scout which led to the beginning of his acting career. Prolific, he would appear in many commercials, magazines, films, and television shows, and became the face of Marlboro for a few years as the Marlboro Man. This brought the Johnson family to California. A few years later, his love for the outdoors would lead Brad and the family to purchase and move to a ranch in rural New Mexico.

Brad greatly enjoyed improving and enhancing land, in a way that maintained and respected its natural beauty. After building a beautiful hunting lodge in

New Mexico, Brad saw great success and enjoyment from guiding hunts while raising his growing family with his wife. He always felt most at home outdoors, and his passion for hunting made that evident.

A man of many talents, Brad also filled his days restoring Model 1886 Winchester Rifles. For this he would come to be recognized as a master craftsman, as his rifles are showcased and cherished worldwide. He would continue to devote time to this art, even as his family moved to the mountains of Colorado. Their adventure would continue there for 4 years, before returning home to North Texas. As much as he loved cowboying and the outdoors, Brad loved nothing more than his family. He put them before himself in every way and they know that they could not have been blessed with a better husband and father.

From life in the professional rodeo circuit, to a career on the big screen, to hunting bear and caribou in Alaska, to finishing his time selling ranch real estate in the rolling hills of North Texas that he loved, Brad truly seized and embraced all different paths of life. His wife and children will always cherish the memories that he gifted to them. He was larger than life. Brad was loved by many and loved people back, a genuine friend, trusted colleague, and a dedicated husband and father, he will never be forgotten, and his legacy will go on.

Brad is preceded in death by his parents Grove and Virginia Johnson and his sister Beth and is survived by his wife, Laurie, his eldest son Shane Johnson, his daughters; Bellamy and husband Brian Olomon and their 3 children, Rachel and her husband Layne Ellis, Eliana and her husband Jordan Williams, Eden and her husband Dylan Gressett who are expecting their first child, Rebekah Johnson, Annabeth Johnson, and his youngest son William Johnson. He is also survived by his step mother Teresa Johnson.

His favorite quotes:

“He taught his sons to be men, and his daughters to accept no less”

“Do right and fear no man”

Cemetery Details

Perryman Cemetery

Forestburg, TX

Previous Events

Graveside Service

FEB **27**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Perryman Cemetery
Forestburg, TX

Tribute Wall

LC

“ He was a great actor, handsome, seemed very sweet. What a blessing God gave us. I know you are walking thr streets of gold with Jesus now ❤️

Lorie L Chambers - January 29 at 07:12 AM

SH

“ Brad and I shared the same floor of Green Springs B at SOSOC in Ashland OR in 1980. We enjoyed playing our guitars and put together "Desert Skies" and played for the masses on occasion. He taught me to rope and tie in the commons of our dorm. Fond memories for sure! "I rode with him I have no complaints " RIP

Steve Horvath - September 07, 2024 at 12:48 PM

DE

“ Here it is 2024 and I just found out about Brad's death. I usually do not write posts on obituaries. I've lived in Louisiana all my life, and I know a Texas Man when I see one. But even on screen or off, what brought him to my attention, was his demeanor. He could be tough, but I could see he had a heart of gold. He could be a tough, but he portrayed a man who had not just passion, but Compassion. To his wife Laurie, I know what it is like to be married 35 years. I offer great Empathy to you, and faith & hope that you will always feel Brad's love & from the Lord. As well as your children.

Deb - July 28, 2024 at 09:57 PM

BH

Just found out just now that Brad Johnson passed away, actually 6 days after my mother passed Feb. 12, 2022. He was such a fabulous and handsome actor. What great talent he exhibited in all his films. I also will be married 35 years on June 30, 2025. Sending condolences to his wife and family. Many he rest in peace. 🙏🙏🙏

Barbara from NC

Barbara Hammond - May 28, 2025 at 08:26 PM

GG

I just learned of Brad's passing after Watching his movie with Melissa Gilbert. I am so incredibly sad to hear he passed. I always felt inspired by the man he was and the characters he chose to portray in movies. I admired him for his genuine compassion and gentleness. He was so handsome and showed so much care to his fellow actors. He gave hope. I first saw him in the movie Always which has been my favorite ever since then. I send my never ending comfort and prayers to you Laurie and to your beautiful children, the grandchildren and the whole family. I am very happy to hear of your wonderful life together and how many beautiful children you both had! Well done! They areh your legacies. Praying for your continued strength and energy in moving forward. I know you will all see him again in heaven. Many blessings. Very Respectfully and Sincerely, Gina Gilbert, CA

Gina Gilbert - October 13, 2025 at 02:43 AM

AB

“ *Antionette Blackwell lit a candle in memory of Brad William Johnson*



Antionette Blackwell - March 07, 2024 at 07:04 PM

CR

“ *I lived on the same road as him he was a really nice man..I'm only 14,but I love the movies he is in.*

Caleb Rich - September 12, 2023 at 02:52 PM

ST

“ I remember Brad from Lincoln Savage Middle School where we were Class mates back during the early 70's. He rode same school bus with me, he lived near Stringer Gap Road rural area. We were in Vocational Agriculture and Drama Classes together. He was quite the class clown at times. He used to tease me a lot which was annoying to me but sad that he passed away and not having more time with his dear ones in life. Even though my sister in law's daughter Cathy Mendoza of Grants Pass went out on dates with him back in the 90's when she was I think much too young for him to date, he'd pick her up in a limousine when he was in the area. I didn't much approve and she didn't listen to me or believe that he was same age as me, I born 10/02/1959... reason I told her he too old for her. Good to know he settled down with wife and children. Prayers for their sad loss.

Shirley Tinney - January 26, 2023 at 10:49 PM

L.

“ ...so sad when family and friends lose the ones they love so much, and when they're in the public eye, everyone else loves them too...and I did, I loved him for what I knew him as, a great actor, and good guy from what he seemed to me, to be...although he did a lot, my favorites were the movie 'Always' and the westerns... my heart and love goes out to those who knew and loved him personally...keep those good memories in your heart and let all else fade... I will miss him forever...

L.A. - October 24, 2022 at 04:04 PM

JT

“ I am also a fan of Brad Johnson. I never met him but I'm sure we could have been friends. I had seen him in commercials in the 1980's and then saw him in "Always", that became one of my favorite love stories!
A few years later I saw him again in the "Left Behind" series. That's when I researched him and discovered we were both born the very same month, day and year.
I'm saddened by his passing. I just found out today... October 24, 2022, which is our birthday. I was checking to see any "news" or recent photos of him and what he was up to.
To his wife and children, I'm so sorry for your loss. Thank you for sharing him and his talent with us. God Bless and keep you!
Jane T Tucker, Winchester, Ohio.

Jane T. Tucker - October 24, 2022 at 02:23 AM

BD

“ I am only a Brad Johnson fan but was deeply saddened when I read that he'd gone to be with the Lord. It kind of knocked the wind out of me. My wife and I loved watching Brad Johnson in all his movies. He was truly one of absolute favorite actors and we loved that he appeared to be a man of faith. We will keep your family in our prayers and encourage you to know that your dad (& husband) is in your future and someday you'll be reunited. We're very sorry for your loss. We truly are.

Bobby J Deneke - August 20, 2022 at 02:08 AM

EB

“ R.I.P Mr.Brad 🙏🙏🙏

Elizabeth Bell - August 01, 2022 at 08:50 PM

PM

“ *Brad was such an amazing actor, and it was obvious that he was also an amazing Christian man who loved his family. His work on Always, and the Left Behind series was incredible. No one else could have played those parts so effectively. Praying for his family, that they will be comforted. He is dearly missed.*

Pet Mom - August 01, 2022 at 01:29 PM

SS

“ *LOVED WATCHING HIM ACT....SJS*



SHELLIA SALMONS - July 21, 2022 at 08:40 PM

BG

“ *Condolences to your family & friends.*



Betty Gonzales - June 04, 2022 at 11:59 AM

EF

“ *My condolences to your family. I watched Brad on Melrose Place when I was a young adult. He was one of my favorite actors on there. What a horrible loss.*

EF

Elaine Fuller - June 04, 2022 at 09:02 AM

KK

Our family just heard about Mr. Johnson's passing. We are praying for y'all. We are so sorry for the suffering and deaths this COVID has caused.

Kathy Kennedy - July 28, 2022 at 05:49 PM

RS

“*Sad and shocked to hear of Brad's passing tonight. My sincere condolences to his family. He was a larger-than-life man. I met him through hunting in the mid 2000's during my time in the Pentagon and used to see him at Safari Club International and in L.A. He was also very nice to my military assistant and signed his Navy flight helmet since he'd starred in Flight of the Intruder. I'll always remember him fondly, especially when I shoot a .20 ga Belgium Browning over & under shotgun that I bought, which used to be his.*

Godspeed Brad,

Roger Smith - June 03, 2022 at 10:35 PM

GW

One of my favorite actors, especially in the Left Behind movie series. May God's comfort and peace be upon his family and friends. 🙏❤️

Gretchen Weaver - June 04, 2022 at 05:43 PM



I am so very saddened to hear of him passing. My favorite film with him is ALWAYS.

My prayers to his family. ❤️🙏

Marisol Santiago Busch - June 18, 2022 at 03:10 PM

SA

Sending deepest condolences to the entire Johnson family. I absolutely enjoyed all his work but most of all I admired him as a decent human being and family man.

Sandie - July 20, 2022 at 11:20 AM

JG

“ My deepest sympathies to Laurie and her beautiful children and family that I love so much..Brad a wonderful man with a heart of gold, always making sure that me and Laurie had lots of spa trips that I will never forget, the greatest!! May God Bless, Love Jana Greenhaw

jana Greenhaw - June 03, 2022 at 10:19 PM

MS

“ My sympathy to the whole family in your loss. As a COVID death, remember that there is \$9K available from FEFA to reimburse you for Funeral/Cemetery expenses.

Peace & Contentment,

Mike Steen



Mike Steen - June 03, 2022 at 08:45 PM

MM

“ I knew Brad from the Left Behind movies. Great actor and a phenomenal person. My condolences to his family.



Michael Mashayahanya - May 08, 2022 at 11:59 AM

GN

“ I am sorry, I meant our Father in Heaven.

Gary Nelson - May 05, 2022 at 02:00 PM

GN

“ I was Brad's baseball coach at Southern Oregon State College. He was a great young man, very well-liked by players and coaches alike, quiet but hard working. I didn't know what happened to him after he left SOSOC until I saw the movie "ALWAYS" and recognized him. I knew Danny Glover so I really enjoyed "FLIGHT OF THE INTRUDER." The thing that gave me great peace was seeing him in the "LEFT BEHIND " series because it gave me some assurance that Brad was a Christian. I was not aware of his passing until yesterday and was shocked to read of it but was comforted by the fact that I know where he is now. He is with our father in Heaven. My thoughts and prayers go out to his wife and family. Although they obviously miss him, we were all fortunate to have had him in our lives.

Gary Nelson

Gary Nelson - May 05, 2022 at 01:18 PM

MS


“ Laurie:
I am so sorry to hear of Brad's passing! My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family always. We have lots of past memories and I think of you and Brad often. He will be missed! Love to you sweet friend!

Monya Satterfield

Monya Satterfield - March 02, 2022 at 08:40 AM

MM

“ I have known Brad since we were little kids. Our dad's were best friends from an early age. We always had so much fun when we'd visit the Johnsons growing up. Some great memories include camping in Yellowstone, living with them for a few months until we could move into our house in Oregon, getting crawdads in the creek across the hwy. , Brad's hobby of making leather belts and such. When my cousins came to visit from Michigan, Brad lead us on a trail ride through their property....Doug and I just messaged about this and he said he got chicken pox from Brad during their trip to Oregon.

Brad will be missed by many. He was a great guy and I will always regret not stopping in to see him on our last two trips we took to Virginia. RIP Brad! 

Our condolences to his family and close friends. Praying for peace and comfort moving forward.

Monica Molebash - February 25, 2022 at 11:03 PM

RI

“ Laurie and family,
Paula and I extend our most sincere and deepest sympathy to you and your children. Even though we have known you for a short time, we have come to love you all as true brothers and sisters in Christ. We are heartbroken for you. You have a beautiful family. We look forward to getting to know you better in the days and years to come. Please know that, if you need anything, we are a phone call away.

Much love, in Christ,
Ricky and Paula Kerr

Ricky - February 24, 2022 at 12:12 PM

RM

My heart goes out to you Laurie and your family! I am so thankful Brad had accepted the Lord as his Savior! I have seen the Left Behind series many times and Brad was great in that! I'm not sure how any actor in those movies could have played in them and not accepted the Lord as their Savior! The Lord loved Brad and wanted him Home early! He had served his time here on Earth. The Lord used Brad mightily in those movies and I pray that many gave their lives to the Lord due to it! My prayers are with you and your family! I was heart-broken when I heard! Much love to each of you! I look forward to meeting each of you, as my brothers and sisters in Christ one day!

Rhonda Martin

Rhonda Martin - May 16, 2022 at 01:34 AM



“ *Lily and Rose Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Brad William Johnson.*



February 24, 2022 at 11:50 AM

YM

“ *You work family who cares very much. purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Brad William Johnson.*



You work family who cares very much. - February 24, 2022 at 11:50 AM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Brad William Johnson.*



February 23, 2022 at 03:38 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Brad William Johnson.*



February 23, 2022 at 12:39 PM



“ *Al Micallef & Family-Mike, Amanda, Sarah purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Brad William Johnson.*



Al Micallef & Family-Mike, Amanda, Sarah - February 23, 2022 at 12:10 PM



“ *Serenity Wreath was purchased for the family of Brad William Johnson.*



February 23, 2022 at 10:16 AM



“ *Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Brad William Johnson.*



February 23, 2022 at 07:24 AM



“ *Majestic Heart was purchased for the family of Brad William Johnson.*



February 22, 2022 at 08:28 PM



“ *I remember the first time I ever met Brad and Laurie. They were traveling to Raton in a motor home that quit just outside of Capulin Volcano National Park. It was a Sunday and they were unable to find any open businesses or anyone to help. I guess Brad knew Mike, but I couldn't get hold of him or the Whittington Center. I wondered, who is this guy (I'd never heard of him)., he could be an ax murderer! But, I packed up and headed out to retrieve him and as it turned out, Laurie and the kids. This was the beginning of a wonderful friendship. After they moved to New Mexico, we shared many good times and stories. I loved visiting them at the ranch and watching their family grow. My heart goes out to Laurie and the kids. RIP Brad, you are loved and will be well remembered.*

DianeTripp Ballew - February 22, 2022 at 05:02 PM



“ *Loving Grace was purchased for the family of Brad William Johnson.*



February 22, 2022 at 02:32 PM



“ *Michael and Christine Smith purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Brad William Johnson.*



Michael and Christine Smith - February 22, 2022 at 12:06 PM



“ *Our most sincerest and deepest condolences to Laurie and his family... Joe and I met Brad and Laurie a few years back... such an amazing couple. It is an understatement to say that he was larger than life. So glad we got to spend time with him and proud to have known him. Our continued prayers to Laurie, his 8 children and extended family... Matthew 5:9*



Longevers - February 21, 2022 at 10:45 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Brad William Johnson.*



February 21, 2022 at 06:08 PM



“ *Lavender Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Brad William Johnson.*



February 21, 2022 at 05:28 PM



“ *I will miss that bright shining smile and big hearted man. He came into my store about 5 yrs ago wanting hand held bouquets for 3 of his daughters. He wanted to do something special for them before a school event. I was not a flower shop but he didn't want to travel to a bigger town to buy. He was so appreciative and kind and later on brought his daughters by so that could thank me for the bouquets. Family was everything to Brad. I will miss his visits and our conversations. His Family will be in our Prayers. God Bless, Sandy Bayer.*

Sandra A Bayer - February 21, 2022 at 02:34 PM