

Gene Johnson

**Obituary
1925 - 2016**

Gene Johnson, age 90, a long time resident of Albuquerque, died Sunday, August 21, 2016.

He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Betty Lee; children, Debbie Benson, Pam Petty and husband, John, Mickie Johnson, and Michael Johnson and wife, Stephanie; ten grandchildren, Aaron Petty and wife, Vanessa, Sara Petty and partner, Duncan, Jennifer Harris and husband, Steve, Rebecca Guess and husband, Drew, Daniel Benson, Lauren Johnson, Justin Hausmann and wife, Erika, Samantha Martinez and husband, Joseph, Trevor Johnson and Brendan Johnson; great-grandchildren, Kiamni, Jasper, Addison, Sean, Seth, Eleanor Mae; and numerous other relatives and cherished friends.

Gene was preceded in death by his parents, Roy A. and Lula Johnson; siblings, Gilbert Johnson, Herbert Johnson and Helen Moulder.

He was born in 1925 in Oklahoma City and before graduation entered the United States Army Air Corps where he proudly served during WW II. A week before Gene's deployment overseas the bomb was dropped and the war ended.

After his discharge Gene worked for a flying school before helping Keith Kahle and actor, Jimmy Stewart with their startup of Central Airlines which he worked for until going to work for Continental Airlines retiring after 35 years as a mechanic.

Gene then repaired Kirby Vacuums for several years. He loved to build model airplanes and fly radio controlled planes. Gene was one of the founding members along with other "Over the Hill gang members" of the local radio control club.

He was a good hearted person with a sense of humor, always loving to tell a good story. Gene was always generous and kind unto others and was the true word of what a gentleman is. He was a loving husband, father, grandpa, great-grandpa, and cherished friend, and will be missed by all who knew him.

Friends may visit Friday, August 26, 2016, from 9:30 till service at 10:00 a.m. at FRENCH-Wyoming. Interment will follow at Gate of Heaven Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Gene's name to High Desert Hospice, 5801 Osuna Rd STE A107, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109. Gene's family would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude to Dottie, Melissa, and the rest of the outstanding staff at The Woodmark at Uptown along with High Desert Hospice for their loving care of Gene and all of the family.

- Albuquerque Journal on Aug. 24, 2016