

## **A Tribute to my Wife Giusi Johnson who passed into the Spirit World in 1998**

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I would like to share this tribute to my late wife who ascended to the spirit world on Oct. 5, 1998, 18 yrs. ago today. It was Father who matched us and I am forever grateful for this eternal gift from God.

### **A Tribute to my Wife Giusi Johnson who passed into the Spirit World on Oct. 5th 1998**

When I think again about my late wife Giusi and I am in again in a state of awe and amazement. I had the privilege to witness the life of a very special person up close for about 17 years.

I first meet Giusi when we were introduced to each other as a possible marriage partner by the Rev. Moon at the end of 1980 at our World Church HQ's which is now the New Yorker Hotel in midtown Manhattan. My first visible impression

of Giusi was that she was very pretty and I thought great, she is an American! But when I started talking with here in English I quickly realized she did not understand a word I was saying, as she smiled shaking her head. Guise was Italian and had just arrived in NY five hours prior to the matching. My next thought (dumb thought) was Father you made a mistake!! She cannot understand a word I am saying, how is this marriage going to work! After being with her for a short while it was obvious that this person is special. Her spirit was so humble and bright, her voice so sweet but confidant, and the way she carried herself was dignified, and I will mention again, she was so pretty.

I know you have heard the saying "Love at First Sight", well for me it was like this with Giusi. I was just in a blissful state of mind and I have to say for the most part, it just got better overtime. The reason was because of the kind of person Giusi was and how she lived her life on a daily basis in relationship to others, our family and with God.

One of the greatest tests of the character of a person is done by watching how one lives their life no matter where or what the situation. We can all look good at church, at work or in public, but when you are out of the spotlight how do you behave and live your life? With Giusi it was always the same, she was the type of person who gave everything of herself no matter where she was or what the situation. She always went out of her way to make people feel comfortable wherever she was. She never stopped giving of herself, night and day. In the beginning I remember feeling a little jealous of how much she loved others, but later came to love her for this unique quality. Friends where always calling or coming by the house to talk with Giusi. She was the one others felt free to share their heart with. She was a very great listener and gave good advice. If they came to our home she would feed them good food and let them leave feeling full and content. It certainly showed in my well rounded body!!

When at work Giusi always took on much more than was asked of her, even helping others do their job. When she was not able to get everything done before leaving for home, she would often go back to work

after our children went to sleep, staying at work till after midnight. This is not easy to do, especially with three energetic young boys. But without complaint she would go do this until the job was done. She had won the respect from employees at the home office and also those out in the field as well. She was known as the one person you could go too to get things done, the one to call if you needed to solve a problem out in the field, and this was always done with a joyful attitude. In 1997 she was selected as employee of the year when there were over 400 employees nationwide. This way of life extended way beyond work, and was lived at home as well.

Our home was most often filled with joy. She was always singing, laughing around the house. She had a great sense of humor always laughing at my jokes and I would make fun of her, especially about how clean and neat she was. Sometimes I would be able to get her to laugh so hard she would cry. During the weekends when I would go away for a sales show, she would wait up or sleep on the couch until I arrived home, sometimes early in the morning. The love and support was always there no matter what.

The one thing I remember the most is how much Giusi loved our three children. The time she was most happy was when she was with her boys. She would just light up when she was with them and cry tears when they were struggling or sick. She was always proud of their accomplishment and a cheering Mom at the sports events and breakthroughs at school. Even when she was mad at them for what young children do, she would yell at them in Italian so they would not hear the words being used. They would just laugh sometimes at her Italian words and make fun at the way she would act and most of the time she would just laugh with them. I also remember how clean and organized our house was all the time. Coming from Italy, she was really trained to keep things very clean and in order. People who visited our home were amazed how clean and orderly things were, especially with 3 children. She had a way of organizing things very quickly and efficiently on a very tight budget. I remember when we moved into our house in NY she had completely put away and organized our home in one day. I just could not believe it when I came home from work that night.

Giusi was diagnosed with rapid growth breast cancer late in 1995. When we got the news of course it was quite upsetting, but always she was determined not to let this slow her down and immediately we made a plan to fight this. After limited results from a natural approach to deal with the disease she tried chemo as well as other unconventional herbal treatments. During this process of trying to get better Giusi never complained and decided to continue working and investing in taking care of others. She just did not want to burden her friends with all that she was going through. Throughout this whole ordeal I was always amazed at Giusi's unselfishness and her service to others even during her last days before passing. Even when she could no longer get out of bed and was in pain, when friends would come over to visit her first question was, are you hungry, would you like to eat, or how are your children and family. I witnessed this first hand over and over. Giusi's greatest struggle came from knowing that she would not be there each day for her children, to give them the love and guidance that they needed while growing up and she shed many tears over this. She even said that I was the best thing that ever happened to her, I know she was for me. We both cried a lot because of this.

During the last few days of her life there was a most serene and pure spirit that filled our bedroom. Even though she was so frail and her body was slipping away I have to say I never saw her to be more beautiful and peaceful. The room was so thick with the presence of God and love. Giusi passed away very peacefully on Oct. 5th 1998, at 3am.

Thank you Giusi for showing all of us what True Love really means by the way you lived your life each and every day. I apologize that these words do not begin to say what a great person you were/are, what a wonderful wife you were to me and mother you were to our children and a great mother figure and friend to so many. You are deeply loved always and remembered forever.