



FAMILY



*All I really need is a song in my heart
Food in my belly and love in my family*
—Raffi



Michael Jay Johnson

8/8/1944-7/26/2017

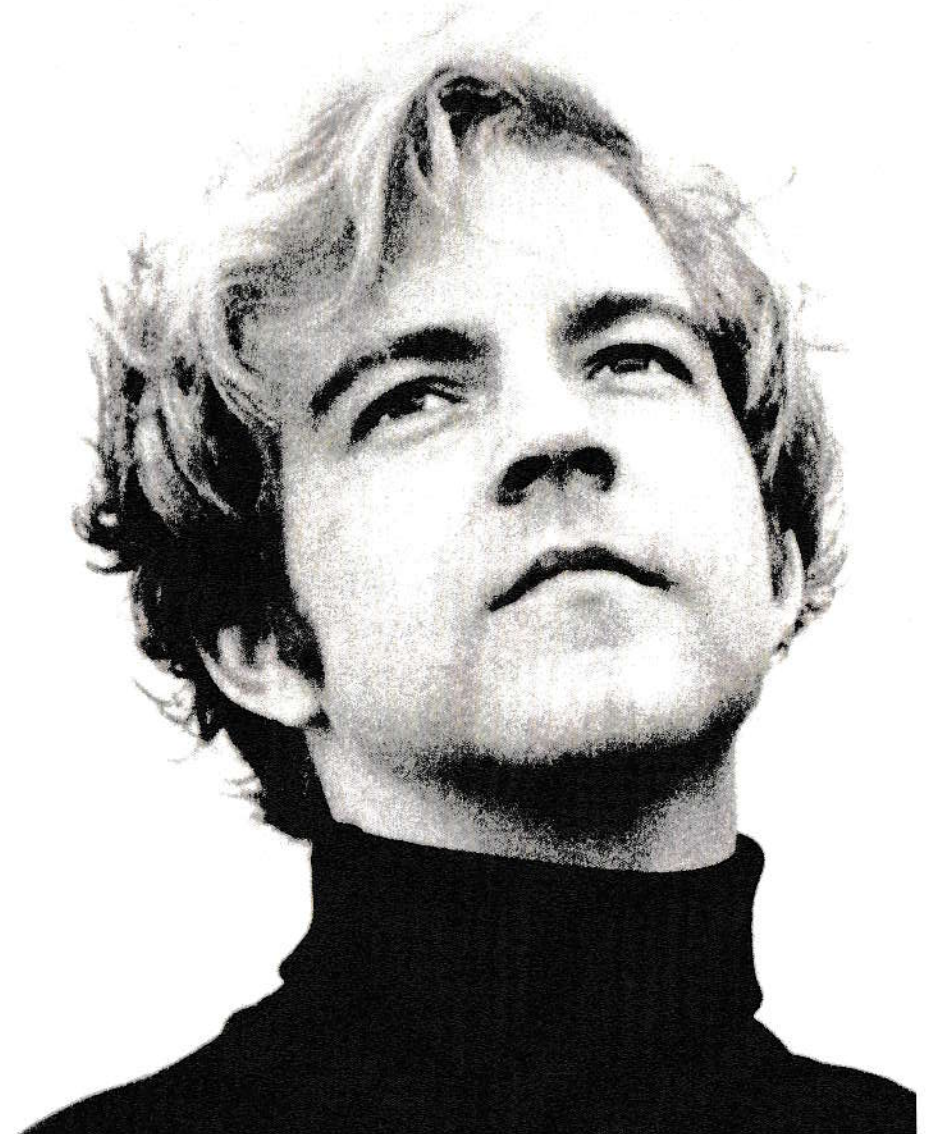


Photo taken by Mark Ahlstrom

MEMORIAL SERVICE
MICHAEL JAY JOHNSON
Born August 8, 1944; Died July 26, 2017

Gathering Music
Selections from Michael's recordings

Call to Order
"Bristlecone Pine" —Hugh Prestwood

Welcome
Rev. Susan Eng

Reading
"Master of Music" - by Henry Van Dyke

Expressing our Sentiments in Song
"Bluer than Blue" —Randy Goodrum

Eulogies and Music

Jan Paczosa – Michael's Sister
"Give Me Wings" — Rhonda Fleming and Don Schlitz

Widge Johnson—Michael's Brother
"The Moon is Still Over Her Shoulder"
—Hugh Prestwood

Truly Carmichael – Michael's Daughter
"Don't Let Us Get Sick" —Warren Zevon

Gordy Johnson – Michael's Friend &
Former Bandmate
"Kiss Me Goodbye" —Hugh Prestwood

Responsive Litany of Love and Release

Though you no longer reside in physical form,
Your energy is held safe in our hearts.

Your journey in this life has ended, all cares gone.
**In your simple presence we found hope;
Our lives were made richer by your being.**

Spun fine was the cloth of your existence.
Your words, laughter and wit
Circled around us like a pleasing fragrance,

Sometimes sweet, sometimes sharp,
But seldom bitter or harsh.

Keen perceptions and compassionate insight
Accompanied your thoughts and words,

Gently kissing subjects both difficult and sublime.
Your humanness honored us who knew you,

And was offered freely to all you met.
May you abide in our hearts forever,

Even as we let you go.

Closing Song
"Gee I'm Glad I Worried About That"
—WT Davidson

Reception
Hosted by Gordy Johnson
Sharing of stories
Mingling and visiting
Selections from Michael's recordings
Sweets and Hors d'oeuvres
Cash Bar

This time of memorial and reception will conclude promptly at 4:00 p.m. in order for our hosts here at the Dakota to prepare for another event this evening.

Michael Johnson

His name is Michael Johnson. He has no plans to put on a cowboy hat, to affect an accent, to wear one glove or to be anyone but himself. Moreover, he is "THE" Michael Johnson, and has performed and lived more music and recorded more hits than you might imagine.

Atlantic Records has caught onto Michael Johnson's magic with the release of the long-awaited *ONE HONEST TEAR*. This strong, distinct collection of songs draws again from the diverse wellspring of emotion that embodies the art of Michael Johnson.

His voice immediately identifies him as the man who sings "Bluer Than Blue," "Give Me Wings," "That's That" and other landmark songs. His music shows a diversity, depth and heart that only comes from living a labor of love.

When asked what he would have you know about himself, Michael says:

--**"Tell them that I love it."** He began playing at age thirteen and just never quit. Singing, playing, writing and recording music is the only lifestyle he's ever lived, and he thrives on it.

--**"Tell them I play guitar."** He really plays guitar. He studied in Spain and plays on all his records in his own unique and distinctive style. His playing is an important highlight of his show.

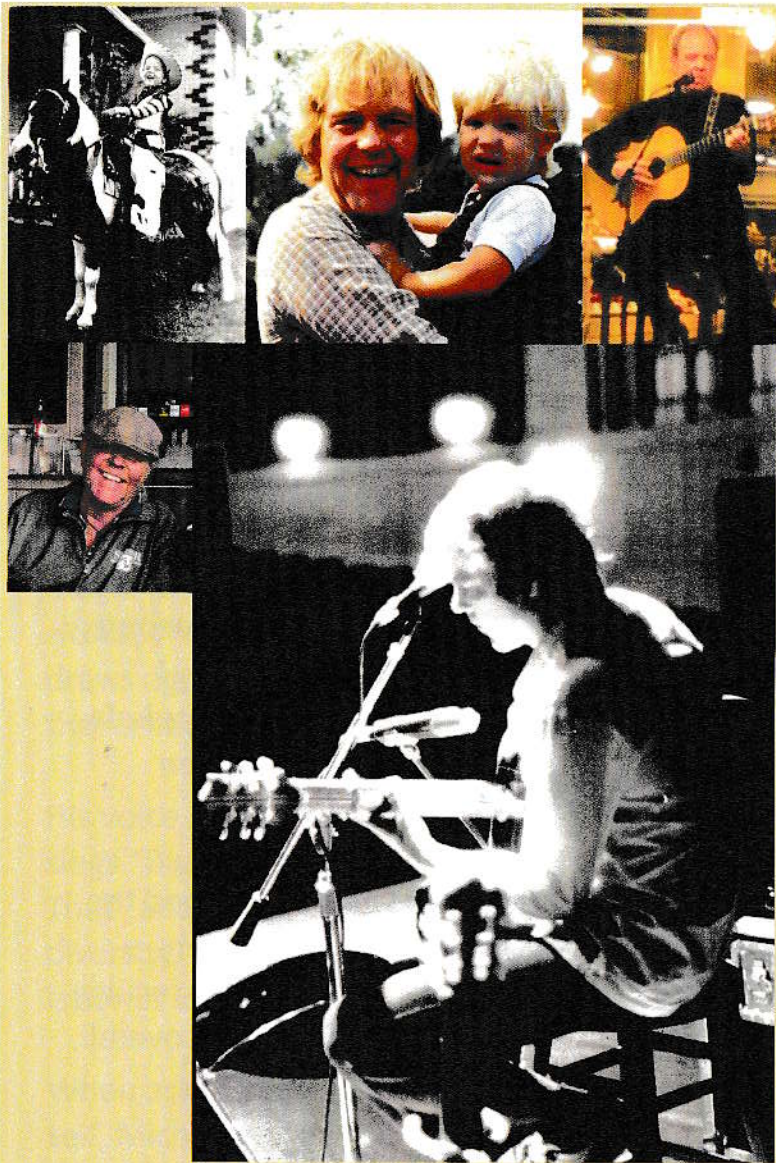
--**"I am a soloist at heart."** Michael often performs alone, and he has elevated the art. He prefers the intimacy and spontaneity of a show that can change with the moment.

--**"Tell them I am a showman. I like to talk to people, and I love to make them laugh! And of course, I love to move them with the music. That's the whole thing. Without that, there is no reason to be on stage!"**

In addition to the unique textures of his voice and the meaningful lyrics he sings, one easily remembers Michael Johnson for the combined impact that results from the music of the singer, his guitar, and his overall sound.

Media Information: Atlantic Records
75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10019
9229 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90069
1025 16th Avenue South, Nashville, TN





Special Thanks To: The Dakota Jazz Club, Sue & Mike Engh, James & Candy Hersch, David Lee & Dr. Lisa Brown, Lisa Gault, Gordy Johnson & Susie Taft, Kyle Eickmeier, Elle Bodine, Cody Brown, Cindy McArthur, Jon Bream, the Allina Doctors & Nurses, Allina Palliative & Hospice Care, Synergy Home Health Care, Michael's Family, Friends and Fans ...all part of his unforgettable journey!

Master of Music - by Henry Van Dyke

*Glory of architect, glory of painter, and sculptor, and bard,
Living forever in temple and picture and statue and song, --
Look how the world with the lights that they lit is illumined and
starred,
Brief was the flame of their life, but the lamps of their art burn
long!*

*Where is the Master of Music, and how has he vanished away?
Where is the work that he wrought with his wonderful art in
the air?
Gone, -- it is gone like the glow on the cloud at the close of the
day!
The Master has finished his work, and the glory of music is --
where?*

*Once, at the stroke of his hand, all the billows of musical sound
Followed his will, as the sea was ruled by the prophet of old:
Now that his hand is relaxed and has dropped to the ground,
Silent and dark are the shores where those marvelous
harmonies rolled!*

*Nay, but not silent the hearts that were filled by that
life-giving sea;
Deeper and purer forever the tides of their being will roll,
Grateful and joyful, Musical Master, because they have
listened to thee, --*

*The glory of your music endures in the depths of the human
soul*