

First World War Entertainer Dies

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Funeral for Joseph (A1) Johnson of 485 Bridge Street East was conducted December 7 by Rev. Kenneth Slitt from Thompson Funeral Home to Elmwood Cemetery Corbyville for burial. He died Dec. 5 at Belleville General Hospital after a lengthy illness in his 81st year.

Bearers were Ron Jones, Bruce Prindle, Carl Bowes, Ray Waugh, Dennis Waugh and Terry Rushnell.

Mr. Johnson is survived by his wife the former Marjorie McKay and by his sister Rita Johnson of Largo, Florida.

He was predeceased by his parents the Mr. and Mrs.

Bazil Johnson, by his son Kenneth and by several brothers.

Born at Richibouctou, New Brunswick, Mr. Johnson resided at Belleville since 1950. A professional musician who played many instruments, he served with the army and air force during the First World War.

He was one of the last surviving members of The Dumbells, a military theatrical group in the First World War which toured Canada and the United States as well as appearing on Broadway. He was a vocalist with the group.

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