



SIR KNIGHT MICHAEL BURKE JOHNSON

M.E. Grand Master

Crowheart, WY

Michael B. Johnson was born in Riverton, Wyoming, on July 11, 1951, to Burke and Dona Johnson. He received his elementary education in a small country school at Crowheart, Wyoming, and then went on to Dubois for junior high and high school, graduating from Dubois High School in 1970. He began his career as a cowboy and general ranch hand, which included being a mechanic, welder, fence builder, electrician, log home builder, and farmer. In the early 70s he went to school in Denver, Colorado, to learn artificial insemination of livestock. This was done so that Johnson Cattle Company cattle could be used in a high altitude test for genetically superior sires for the American Shorthorn Association. Mike and his family are associated with a small country Episcopal church. His grandfather, Nick, furnished the money to build this beautiful log church, and it is maintained by contributions made by the congregation. Mike and his wife, Judy, live on the family ranch in Crowheart where they have made a lifelong commitment to working in the live stock industry. Mike and Judy have two sons, three daughters, and seven grandchildren. Judy belongs to the Social Order of the Beauceant in Wyoming.

Mike was initiated, passed, and raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason in Dubois Lodge 53 in 1984, serving as worshipful master four times, starting in 1991. In 2008 he was appointed junior grand steward by Most Worshipful Grand Master Clarence E. Darling. Mike progressed through the appointed and elected line of the Grand Lodge of Wyoming. He is now a past grand master of the Grand Lodge of A.F.&A.M. of Wyoming, serving in 2015-2016.

In 1985, he joined the Fremont County York Rite bodies. He served as high priest of Mount Horeb Chapter 6, illustrious master of Lander Council 4, and commander of Hugh de Payne Commandery 7. He served as grand commander for the state of Wyoming in 2008. Other York Rite memberships include the Holy Order of High Priesthood; Thrice Illustrious Masters of Wyoming; Emanuel Conclave of the Red Cross of Constantine, in which he holds emeritus status; Knights of the York Cross of Honor; Equality York Rite College 92, in which he received the Order of the Purple Cross in Houston, Texas; Agnus

Dei Tabernacle XLIV, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests; and Wyoming Chapter, Order of Knights Preceptor. He also belongs to Commanderies in Texas, Colorado, Utah, Alaska, and Ohio. His service to the Grand Encampment began with his appointment as northwest department commander by Most Eminent Grand Master William Howard Koon, II, and he was elected grand captain general at the 65th Triennial Conclave. Mike is also a member of the Valley of Sheridan Scottish Rite bodies and the Philalethes Society. He is a ninth grade in the Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis in Wyoming; a member of the Royal Society of Knights Occidental; the Royal Order of Scotland; St. Thomas of Acon; the Grand College of Rites; and Forget-Me-Not Counsel 431, Allied Masonic Degrees in Wyoming.

Elected and installed M.E. Grand Master at the 69th Triennial Conclave August 17, 2021 in Minneapolis, Minnesota.