

GARY JOHN JOHNSTON, 51

Sergeant 1st Class E7 Gary John Johnston (Ret), 51, of Shell Rock, formerly of Marshalltown, died March 11, 2008, at Chandler Regional Hospital in Chandler, AZ after a year-long battle with cancer.

Memorial services were held on Saturday, April 12, 2008, at 10:30 a.m. at the Mitchell Family Funeral Home. He was laid to rest with military honors at the Riverside Cemetery. Memorials may be directed to the family. For condolences, please visit www.mitchellfh.com. Mitchell Family Funeral Home is caring for Gary and his family. Ph 641-844-1234.

Gary was the third of seven children born to John Jr. and Ethelda (Peg) Camille (Collins) Johnston. He was born on December 11, 1956, at St. Thomas Hospital in Marshalltown. He was raised in the Marshalltown area and attended Marshalltown Community Schools until his graduation from Marshalltown High School in 1974.

Gary proudly served in the United States Army for 22 years, retiring in 2005. His tours of duty included the Gulf War, Kosovo, Iraq, and two years in Germany. While stateside, he was stationed in Kentucky, North Carolina, Virginia, Hawaii, and Kansas. He served as an aircraft inspector for much of his time in the army and taught in this field for many years during his service.

He is survived by his mother, Ethelda (Peg) Johnston of Apache Junction, AZ; his children, Heather Johnston (Tyler Behrends) of Shell Rock, and Stephen (Cassandra) Johnston of Virginia Beach, VA; his grandchildren, Amanda Johnston and Bradley Anderson; his siblings, Dena (Stephen) Burroughs of Chandler, AZ, Craig (Deanna) Johnston of Wapaca, WI, Sonya Joyce (Randy Mason) of Phoenix, AZ, Sandra Johnston of Marshalltown, John Johnston of Marshalltown, and Mark (Robin) Johnston of Marshalltown; his nieces and nephew, Tashia Blessing (Evan Liggins), Jennifer Burroughs, Justine Johnston (Mike Long), Layla Joyce, Stacy (Scott) Schroeder, Jill Brauer, and Travis Schumann; and great-nieces and great-nephew, Skylar Willuweit, Makia Long, Amber and Lexi Schroeder, and Keenar Blessing. Gary is also survived by many aunts, uncles, cousins, and

