



Governor Charlie Baker has ordered that the United States of America flag and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts flag be lowered to half-staff from sunrise until sunset on **Wednesday, December 2, 2020**, the day of funeral service, in honor of Staff Sergeant Mark Anthony Johnson, US Army, of Agawam, Massachusetts, who passed away on November 14, 2020 in Fort Hood, Texas.

SSG Mark A. Johnson, 24, was born in Springfield, son of Tony and Ramonita (Garcia) Johnson. After graduating from Agawam High School, he enlisted in the United States Army and began his military service on Sept. 1, 2015. Mark attended One Station Unit Training at Ft. Benning, where he was awarded the MOS 11C, Mortarman. In 2016 he was stationed at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA, and assigned to Arikara Troop, 8th Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division. He served as an Ammunition Bearer, Gunner and Squad Leader. He arrived at Ft. Hood in 2019 and was assigned to 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd ABCT, 1st Cavalry Division and served as a Squad Leader in support of Operation Atlantic Resolve in Romania. His military awards include the Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, NCO Professional Development Ribbon, Army Service Ribbon, and the NATO Medal. SSG Johnson also earned the coveted Expert Infantryman's Badge.

