

# Transgender Awareness Week Spotlight:

## Marsha "Pay It No Mind" Johnson



**Marsha P. Johnson**  
she/her/hers  
1942 - 1992

Marsha was an American transgender LGBTQ+ Rights Activist in New York City. Known as a joyful and passionate spirit, Marsha is considered a vanguard in the Gay Liberation Movement started in New York after the Stonewall Uprising of 1969. Along with working as a self-made drag queen, model, and sex worker,

Johnson was also mother to many homeless and struggling LGBTQ youth on the streets of New York, helping to found STAR, the Street Transvestite Action Revolutionaries. While she died in obscurity in 1992, it is only more recently that Marsha's life has been remembered and celebrated as a formative member of the LGBTQ+ community worldwide.

