

**A Celebration of Life
For
Edward "Chief" Johnson, Sr.**



**Sunrise:
April 24, 1924**

**Sunset:
May 29, 2007**

**~ Service ~
Monday, June 4, 2007
11:00 A. M.**

**Johnson Activity Center
Fairfield High School
615 Post Oak Road
Fairfield, Texas 75840**

**Reverend Darrell Houston, Sr. Officiating
Jones Chapel United Methodist Church
Fairfield, Texas**

Order of Service

Affirmation of Faith

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
Born of the Virgin Mary,
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, dead, and buried,
The third day he rose from the dead;
He ascended into heaven,

And sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Processional

Ministers, Pallbearers, Family

Hymn

“ Amazing Grace “

Scriptures:

Old Testament - Pastor Rudy Williams
New Testament - Rev. George Melvin Hancock

Prayer

Affirmation of Faith

Hymn

“ Blessed Assurance “ Jones Chapel UMC Choir

Resolutions

Jones Chapel UMC – Mrs. Muriel Morton
(All Others Please Pass to Funeral Directors)

Expressions

Mayor of Fairfield, Texas – Roy Hill
Freestone Co. Sheriff – Ralph Billings
FISD Superintendent – Tony Price
Dogan Alumni President – Mary Helen Malone

Special Remarks

Rev. Estelle McIlveen

Tribute From Grandchildren

Elisia Johnson

Family Expressions

Edward Johnson, Jr.

Selection

“ How Great Thou Art “ Jones Chapel UMC

Word of Comfort

Rev. Darrell Houston, Sr., Pastor
Jones Chapel UMC

Recessional

Obituary

Edward Johnson, Sr. was the first born of twins April 14, 1924, in Freestone County, Fairfield, Texas, to the parentage of Mr. Eugene Larkin Johnson, Sr. and Emily White Johnson.

He accepted Christ at an early age and united with Jones Chapel United Methodist Church. As a life long member of Jones Chapel UMC, he served in the capacity of Chairman of the Administrative Board, Lay Leader, and Delegate to the Annual Conference and Sunday School Teacher. He received training from the Lay Speaker Training School on the former Palestine District to become a Lay Speaker in the United Methodist Church.

He received his formal education and graduated from Dogan High School. After graduating from Dogan High, he was drafted in the United States Navy and was stationed in Corpus Christi, Texas for two years. After leaving the military, he attended Tillotson College in Austin, Texas where he received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Mathematics, he also did graduate studies at Texas Southern University, Houston, Texas.

He began his professional career as a teacher and basketball coach at his Alma Mater Dogan High School. During his time at Dogan High School he was given the nickname "Chief", because of his high red cheekbones. This nickname has been his legacy throughout his life. He continued to work in the school system and was very instrumental during the integration of the school system and community programs. While working as a teacher, he drove the school buses for many years because of the shortage of school bus drivers. He affected the lives of many students through three or four generations of families in the Freestone County area. He retired from the Fairfield Independent School District after 37 years. His dedication to education continued to challenge his desires to work toward the improvements of better educational opportunities for all children when he was elected to the Fairfield Independent School Board for three, four year terms (12 Years).

He continued his dedication to the Fairfield Community when he volunteered to become a Reserved Deputy for the Freestone County Sheriff's Department. He received formal training as a deputy and received Master Peace Officer, March 5, 1998. He was the first deputy to receive the Deputy of the Year honor given by the Freestone County Sheriff's office in 1988. He faithfully served as a Reserve Deputy for 39 years and during his tenure he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant.

He was a member of the Freestone County Advisory Board, Freestone County Retired Teachers Association of District XII, and local. He was a Councilman for the city of Fairfield.

Today you sit in a building named and dedicated in honor of Edward Johnson, Sr., and Lee Earl Johnson in 2003, for their combined 85 years of service and educators in the Fairfield Independent School District. He was elated and humbled by the gesture of the School Board Administrators, and citizens who honored them by placing their name on the "Johnson Activity Center."

He met and married Lee Earl Richard on October 22, 1955. To this union two sons where born.

He was preceded in death by his father, mother, and brother, Eugene Larkin Johnson, Jr. To cherish the memories: wife, Lee Earl Johnson; Sons: Edward Johnson, Jr. (Barbara), Lexington, KY. and Randall Lee Johnson, Fairfield, TX.; Sister: Eleasie Foster (Lawrence); Twin Brother: Edgar Johnson (Latrell); from San Antonio, TX.; Sister-in-Law: Dorsey Johnson, Fairfield, TX.; Grandchildren: Elisia Johnson, Karneisha Johnson, and Virginia Johnson; God Grandson: Darrell Houston, Jr.; beloved nieces, nephews, great nieces, and great nephews; daughter-in-law: Sheila Johnson; special extended family children: Ricky and Yolanda Allen, DeSoto, TX.; and Princess Banks, Cedar Hill, TX.



Thanatopsis

So live, that when thy summons comes to join
The innumerable caravan which moves
To that mysterious realm, where each shall take
His Chamber in the Silent halls of death,
Thou go not, like the quarry slave at night,
Scourged to his dungeon, but sustained and
soothed
By and unfaltering trust, approach thy grave
Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch
about him,
And lies down to pleasant dreams.

Bryant

Edward's Favorite Hymn

Blessed Assurance words by Fanny J. Crosby, 1873

1. Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchased of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Chorus: This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the daylong; this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the daylong.

2. Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight; angels descending bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Chorus:

3. Perfect submission, all is at rest; I in my Savior am happy and blest, watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love.

Blessed Assurance

Fanny J. Crosby, 1873, alt. Mrs. J. F. Kraupp, 1873

1. Blessed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! Oh, what a fore - taste of
2. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light, Won - der - ful vi - sions now
3. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest, I in my Sav - ior am

gla - ry di - vine! Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of God,
burst on my sight, An - gels de - scend - ing, bring from a - bove
hap - py and blest, watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a - bove,

Refrain
Born of His Spir - it, washed in His blood, } This is my sto - ry, this is my
Felt - oes of mer - cy, whispers of love, } song,
Filled with His good - ness, lost in His love, } Praising my Sav - ior all the day long. This is my sto - ry,
this is my song, Praising my Sav - ior all the day long.

Taken from the Bible Study Web Site at www.biblestudy.org
Bible Study: You Have Questions. The Bible Has Answers.

Acknowledgment

During these trying hours, the presence of friends have meant so much to us. Your prayers have increased our faith. Your words encouraged our sad hearts. The fragrance of flowers, the thought of every card, the visits, the phone calls have helped us to maintain our strength. We pray that each of you will be showered with blessings.

~ The Family

Active Pallbearers

Freestone County Sheriff Department

Honorary Pallbearers

Jones Chapel United Methodist Men

Interment

Fairfield Baptist Cemetery
Fairfield, Texas

Will Those Driving In The Procession Please
Turn On Headlights For Safety !

Food will be served at Jones Chapel United Methodist Church
Fellowship Hall at 306 Church Street, Fairfield, Texas.

Arrangements and Services Entrusted To:

Ross and Johnson Mortuary

1100 East 5th Avenue
Corsicana, Texas 75110
Phone: 903-872-4661

Joseph and Charlene Johnson, Owners

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OBITUARIES

Edward "Chief" Johnson, Sr.

Edward Johnson, Sr. was the first born of twins April 14, 1924, in Freestone County, Fairfield, Texas, to the parentage of Mr. Eugene Larkin Johnson, Sr. and Emily White Johnson.

He accepted Christ at an early age and united with Jones Chapel United Methodist Church. As a lifelong member of Jones Chapel UMC, he served in the capacity of Chairman of the Administrative Board, Lay Leader and the Delegate to the Annual Conference and Sunday School Teacher. He received training from the Lay Speaker Training



REV. DARRELL HOUSTON, SR., PASTOR AT JONES CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH gives words of comfort to friends and family just before the recessional of Edward "Chief" Johnson's funeral on Monday, June 4, 2007 at the Johnson Activity Center in Fairfield..

School on the former Palestine District to become a Lay Speaker in the United Methodist Church.

He received his formal education and graduated from Dogan High School. After graduating from Dogan High, he was drafted in the United States Navy and was stationed in Corpus Christi, Texas for two years. After leaving the military, he attended Tillotson College in Austin, Texas where he received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Mathematics; he also did graduate studies at Texas Southern University, Houston, Texas.

He began his professional career as a teacher and basketball coach at his Alma Mater, Dogan High School. During his time at Dogan High School he was given the nickname "Chief" because of his high, red cheekbones. This nickname has been his legacy throughout his life. He continued to work in the school system and was very instrumental during the integration of the school system and community programs. While working as a teacher, he drove school buses for years because of the shortage of school bus drivers. He affected the lives of many students through three or four generations of families in Freestone County area. He retired from Fairfield Independent School District in 1986 after 37 years. His dedication to education continued to challenge his desires to work toward improvements of better educational opportunities for all children when he was elected to the FISD School Board for three, four-year terms (12 years).

He continued his dedication to the Fairfield Community when he volunteered to become a Reserve Deputy for the Freestone County

Sheriff's Department. He received formal training as a deputy and received Master Peace Officer, March 5, 1998. He was the first deputy to receive the Deputy of the Year honor given by the Freestone County Sheriff's office in 1988. He faithfully served as a reserve deputy for 39 years and during his tenure he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant.

He was a member of the Freestone County Advisory Board, Freestone County Retired Teachers Association of District XII, and local. He was a Councilman for the city of Fairfield.

In 2003 FISD named the new sports activity center after Edward Johnson, Sr. and Lee Earl Johnson for their combined 85 years of service as educators in Fairfield ISD. He was elated and humbled by the gesture of the School Board, Administrators, and citizens who honored them by placing their name on the "Johnson Activity Center".

He met and married Lee Earl Richard on October 22, 1955. To this union two sons were born.

He was preceded in death by his father, mother and brother, Eugene Larkin Johnson, Jr. To cherish the memories: wife, Lee Earl Johnson; Sons: Edward Johnson, Jr. (Barbara), Lexington KY and Randall Lee Johnson, Fairfield, TX; Sister: Eleasie Foster (Lawrence); Twin Brother: Edgar Johnson (Latrell); from Sam Antonio, Tx; Sister-in-law: Dorsey Johnson, Fairfield, TX; Grandchildren: Elisia Johnson, Karneisha Johnson and Virginia Johnson; God Grandson: Darrell Houston, Jr.; beloved nieces and nephews; daughter-in-law: Sheila Johnson; special extended family children: Ricky and Yolanda Allen, DeSoto, TX; and Princess Banks, Cedar Hill, TX.

Edward Johnson, Sr.

A "Chief" Among Men

"Some men build fortresses, some men build empires, but Mr. Johnson built men. That was his legacy." This is one of the many kind things said about Edward "Chief" Johnson at his funeral service on Monday, June 04, 2007 at the FHS Johnson Activity Center that was named after he and his widow, Lee Earl Johnson.

Johnson passed on Tuesday, May 29, 2007 in a Dallas hospital, but he was able to leave his mark on Freestone County.

"Your husband bore good fruit Lee Earl. All you have to do to know that is look around you," said Pastor Randy Williams.

Chief worked for Dogan High School as a math teacher and basketball coach and was part of the integration of schools. He also worked for FISD for 37 years before retiring in 1986 and served as a FISD School Board member for 12 years.

"In the decades that I knew Chief I never heard him quote scripture, but I saw him live scripture every single day," said superintendent Tony Price.

Even in retirement he stayed busy. Chief also served in the Freestone County Sheriff Office as a deputy for 39 years. He advanced to Lieutenant before his run was up. He also received Master Peace Officer in 1998 and was the first to receive the Deputy of the Year award from the Freestone County Sheriff's Office.

"I do not know of a man in my 57 years of life that I have never heard a negative word spoken about except

for Edward Johnson," said Freestone County Sheriff Ralph Billings.

Chief Served as a member of the Freestone County Advisory Board, Freestone County Retired Teachers Association of District XII and local. He also served as a councilman on the Fairfield City Council for three years.

"We are going to miss him something terrible. He was the moral compass of the Fairfield City Council. He kept us on the straight and

narrow and urged us to use compassion. He was a great influence on us. We really are going to miss him," said fellow council member, Jo Olive Zickuhr.

He was also a very active, lifelong member in his church, Jones Chapel United Methodist Church. He served in the capacity of Chairman of the Administrative Board, Lay Leader and the Delegate to the Annual Conference and Sunday School Teacher. He received training from the Lay Speaker Training School on the former Palestine District to become a Lay Speaker in the United Methodist Church.

"Edward was many things to many different people, but more than anything, he was my friend and I loved him. He was the best we had," said Mayor Roy Hill of Chief.

Chief was preceded in death by his father, mother and brother, Eugene Larkin Johnson, Jr. He was survived by: wife, Lee Earl Johnson; Sons: Edward Johnson, Jr. (Barbara), Lexington KY and Randall Lee Johnson, Fairfield, TX; Sister: Eleasie Foster (Lawrence); Twin Brother: Edgar Johnson (Latrell); from Sam Antonio, TX; Sister-in-law: Dorsey Johnson, Fairfield, TX; Grandchildren: Elisia Johnson, Karneisha Johnson and Virginia Johnson; God Grandson: Darrell Houston, Jr.; beloved nieces and nephews; daughter-in-law: Sheila Johnson; special extended family children: Ricky and Yolanda Allen, DeSoto, TX; and Princess Banks, Cedar Hill, TX.

Edward Johnson, Jr. spoke of the way Chief always told

COUNTY

309 West Hwy. 84 * Fairfield
254-739-5575

Sunday Morning Worship
Childrens Church 12 & under
10:30 a.m.

Tuesday Church Arena opens for
Riders at 6 p.m.,
Services at 7:30 p.m.
Pastor, Dr. Gerald R. Dudley



Fairfield Christian Center

Eston (Buddy) Turner, Jr.
Pastor

Full Gospel

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Eagle Insurance Services



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Agent

123 S. Mount
On the West side of the square
P.O. Box 307

Fairfield, TX 75840
Phone: 903-389-2238

Desoto, TX; and Princess
Banks, Cedar Hill, TX.
Edward Johnson, Jr. spoke
of the way Chief always told
stories and how he could "talk
for years" and he wanted to
say "On behalf of the family
I would like to thank you all
for being his stories."
His granddaughters whom
he always told "atta boy"
"even though they were
girls" wanted to repeat
this to him in reference
to his life. They told him
"atta boy" as they paid
their respects to the
"Granddaddy."
Mary Helen Malone sat
it best and made everyone
smile when she said, "W
will all remember him.
and his strap."
Bret Beene reporting.

ZETA PHI BETA SORORITY, Inc.

OBSERVES

FINER WOMANHOOD WEEK

FEBRUARY 17-23, 1941

AUSTIN, TEXAS



- F**—Finding between the right wing of tradition and left of adventure.
- I**—Idling for naught save when hands will not grace soul.
- N**—Never becoming slave to good dreams of no bottom.
- E**—Earning our bread with sixty minutes worth of distance run.
- R**—Rising toward a mountain of transfiguration, but remaining not.
- W**—Walking with queens, nor spurning the cry of the heads,
- O**—Opening our minds to the dictates of stored up wisdom.
- M**—Moving toward the star of ideals.
- A**—Approving the handicraft of weaver by checking his pattern,
- N**—Naming ourselves as preceptress of our fate.
- H**—Holding naught as queens, save honor and love.
- O**—Obeying only our convictions.
- O**—Offering the best to the world.
- D**—Delving deeply into the tasks we give our lives to.

Program

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17, -12:00 NOON.

Anderson High School Auditorium

Prelude Mr. J. A. Polk
Devotions Soror Nada Knox
History and Aim of Week Soror Lura Evans
Address Soror Will Ella Dean
Selection Crescent Quartet

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Repledge Service at residence of Soror Bernice Lusk

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19 - 10:00 A. M.

Samuel Huston Chapel

Prelude Soror Virgie Carrington-DeWitty
Devotion Soror Bernice Lusk
Reading Soror Adell C. Woods
History and Aim of Week Soror Lucile Johnson
Selection Soror Virgie Carrington-DeWitty
Address Soror Jessie M. Ford
Greek Medley

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1941

Annual Goodwill Tour

PROGRAM

Friday Feb. 21, 1941 10:00 A. M.

Tillotson College Chapel

Prelude Mrs. C. Ruth Upshaw
Devotions Soror Lura Evans
Musical Reading Soror Nada Knox
History and Aim of Week Soror Will Ella Dean
Selection Crescent Quartet
Address Soror Nevada Mackey
Presentation to College Soror Lura Evans
Greek Medley

Saturday, Feb. 22

Reception for Archonians



*Let me use your coat
to that dinner*

Program

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1941;

11:00 A. M.

Joint worship of Zetas at Wesley Chapel M. E. Church.

4:15 P. M.

ALPHA KAPPA ZETA

Presents

Radio Program Station K N O W
Prelude Zeta Hymn
Vocal Solo Soror V. M. DeWitty
Address Soror A. M. Craig
Vocal Duet Sorors T. A. Slider and V. M. DeWitty

IN LOVING MEMORY

OF

SOROR BESSIE LOMAX-JONES

A sweet life of service in deeds,
Doing her bit for those in need;
Sisterly, zealous, loving and true
Zeta Phi Beta will never forget you.

6:00 P. M.

Zeta Birthday Dinner Youngblood's Tea Room

Services pend for community leader

A mainstay in the Fairfield community, Edward "Chief" Johnson, died Tuesday morning in a Dallas hospital after a lengthy illness.

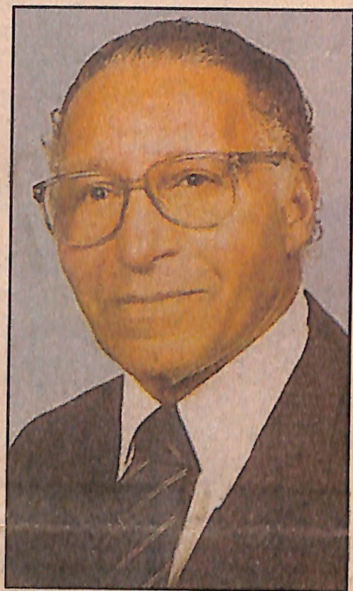
Johnson, 83, was an educator and a coach from 1951 until his retirement from Fairfield Independent School District in 1986.

In 2003, the new gymnasium complex at Fairfield high school was named Johnson Activity Center in honor of the educator and his wife, Lee Earl Johnson, also a veteran teacher. Between the two, they dedicated 85 years to teaching.

He also served on the FISD school board, currently was a member of the Fairfield city council and was a member of Jones Chapel Methodist Church.

In 1970, he signed up as a Freestone county reserve deputy, promoting to the rank of lieutenant, and still served as a active member of the reserves when able.

Johnson received the first Deputy of the Year honor given by the Freestone county sheriff's office in 1988.



EDWARD JOHNSON

The civic leader served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and earned a bachelor of science degree in mathematics from Tilliston College in Austin.

He is survived by his wife, Lee Earl Johnson, and two sons, Edward Johnson, Jr., and Randall Lee Johnson.

Funeral services are pending.



**Edward "Chief"
Johnson, Sr.**

Funeral services were held Monday, June 4 in Fairfield for Edward "Chief" Johnson, 83, of Fairfield who died

Tuesday, May 29 in Fairfield.

Mr. Johnson was the first born of twins on April 14, 1924 in Freestone county to Eugene Larkin Johnson, Sr. and Emily White Johnson. He was a lifelong member of Jones Chapel United Methodist Church, where he served as chairman of the administrative board, lay leader, delegate to the Annual Conference, and Sunday school teacher. He received training from the Lay Speaker School in the former Palestine District to become a lay speaker in the United Methodist Church.

After graduating from Dogan High School in Fairfield, he was drafted into the navy and was stationed in Corpus Christi for two years. After leaving the military, he attended Tillotson College in Austin, and received his bachelor of science degree in

mathematics. He also did graduate studies at Texas Southern University in Houston.

Mr. Johnson began his professional career as a teacher and basketball coach at his alma mater, Dogan High School. It was during his time there that he was given the nickname "Chief," because of his high red cheekbones. The nickname remained a legacy throughout his life.

He met and married Lee Earl Richard on October 22, 1955, and they had two sons.

He continued to work in the school system and was instrumental during the integration of the school system and community programs.

While working as a teacher, he drove the school buses for many years because of the shortage of drivers. He retired from the Fairfield

Independent School District after 37 years.

Mr. Johnson served on the Fairfield ISD school board for 12 years, and was a councilman for the City of Fairfield. He served for 39 years as a reserve deputy with the Freestone County Sheriff's Department, receiving his Master Peace Officer designation in 1998 and Deputy of the Year in 1988. During his tenure he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant.

He was also a member of the Freestone County Advisory Board and the Freestone County Retired Teachers Association.

Services were conducted at 11 a.m. at the Johnson Activity Center, Fairfield High School, with Rev. Darrell Houston, Sr. of Jones Chapel United Methodist Church officiating.

Also speaking at the service were Fairfield Mayor Roy

Hill, Freestone County Sheriff Ralph Billings, Fairfield ISD Superintendent Tony Price and Dogan Alumni President Mary Helen Malone.

Burial was at Fairfield Baptist Cemetery. Pallbearers were members of the Freestone County Sheriff's Department, and honorary pallbearers were members of the Jones Chapel United Methodist Men.

Mr. Johnson is survived by his wife, Lee Earl Johnson; sons Edward Johnson, Jr. and wife Barbara of Lexington, Kentucky; and Randall Lee Johnson of Fairfield;

A sister, Eleasie Foster and husband Lawrence; his twin brother, Edgar Johnson and wife Latrell of San Antonio; his sister-in-law, Dorsey Johnson of Fairfield;

Three grandchildren, Elisia Johnson, Karneisha Johnson and Virginia Johnson; God grandson Darrell Houston, Jr.; many nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews; daughter-in-law Sheila Johnson; and special extended family children Ricky and Yolanda Allen of DeSoto and Princess Banks of Cedar Hill.

Stine's Biographical Material

Dogán
Historic
Materials

Edward
Johnson