

Haynes B. Johnson Class 41-53

As a journalist, author, and television analyst, Haynes B. Johnson reported on most major news stories of the latter half of the 20th century and was regarded as one of the top American political commentators.

Mr. Johnson served three years on active duty as a Field Artilleryman, after earning a bachelor's degree from the University of Missouri in 1952 and graduating from Artillery OCS at Fort Sill. He started his newspaper career as a copy boy for the New York Sun, where his father worked. He completed a master's degree at the University of Wisconsin in 1956 and became a reporter for the Wilmington News-Journal. From 1957 to 1969 he was a reporter for the Washington Star, where he covered conflicts in the Dominican Republic and India, as well as the Vietnam War. He then joined the Washington Post, where he was a national affairs reporter, special assignment reporter and assistant managing editor before becoming a national affairs columnist.

He received the Pulitzer Prize in 1966 for his coverage of the Civil Rights movement, making he and his father Malcolm "Mike" Johnson, the 1949 recipient for a series about crime on the New York City docks which became the basis for the film "On the Waterfront," the first father-son Pulitzer winners.

After leaving the Washington Post in 1994, Johnson taught journalism at Duke University, Princeton University, the University of California Berkeley, the University of Pennsylvania, George Washington University and the University of Maryland. He was a panelist on the PBS shows "Washington Week in Review" and "The NewsHour," and NBC's "Meet the Press". He authored 18 books of history, current events and biography.