



David Johnson

Asheville, N.C. | Tuesday, August 17 2010

David Bruce Johnson, 70, passed away August 17, 2010.

He retired from LSU in May 2000 after a distinguished 33-year career. Johnson, who received his Ph.D. from the University of Virginia, joined the LSU faculty as an assistant professor in 1967 and attained the rank of professor in 1975. From 1975 to 1985, he served as director of the Division of Business Research in the College of Business Administration.

During the 1970s and early 1980s he spent some time at the U.S. Treasury, where he served on several energy policy committees and the International Law of the Sea treaty committee. He was a member of the American Blood Commission that established United States policy on blood procurement. He served for many years as a Fellow of the American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research. He founded the Master of Public Administration program at LSU and was the first director of the Public Administration Institute. He and Professor Ray Kazmann of the LSU College of Engineering brought to the world's attention the economic and engineering impacts of the Atchafalaya capturing the Mississippi River. Their study was extensively reported in such national newspapers as the *New York Times* and *Chicago Tribune* as well as being featured on PBS' *Nova*, NBC's *Today Show*, the BBC, and many TV stations around this country.

Johnson was highly regarded as a teacher, having received several outstanding teaching awards from both the economics department and the college's MBA program. During the early and middle parts of his career, he was the economics department's most prolific dissertation director, with some 10 doctoral dissertations to his credit. He has published widely in refereed journals and authored or coauthored innumerable book chapters, technical reports, and invited papers.

Johnson's teaching and research covered a wide range of fields—policy analysis and evaluation, public finance, political economy, international finance, and money /macroeconomics. Perhaps he was best known for his work in public finance and public choice. His books include *Why the Draft? The Case for a Volunteer Army* (coauthor), 1968; *The Economics of Charity* (coauthor), 1970; *Public Choice: The New Political Economy*, 1992; *Finding and Using Economic Information*, 1993; and *The Black Book of Economic Information*, 1999. His public choice book has been translated into Hungarian and the languages of the Czech and Slovak republics. He visited the University of Economics in Bratislava, Slovakia, and the University of Economics in Budapest, where he delivered several lectures and consulted on the development of a public choice curriculum and a philanthropy curriculum.

He is survived by his wife, Janet Johnson; son Tedford Johnson and daughter-in-law Sarah; and his grandson Lucas Charles Johnson. Also surviving is a large beloved extended family. He was the son-in-law of Dolly Gilman, deceased, and the recently deceased Russell Gilman.

A funeral Mass will be held at 10:30 a.m. Friday, Aug. 20 at St. Barnabas Church in Asheville. Local visitation will be at Rose Lawn Memory Gardens Chapel on Monday, Aug. 23 from 11 a.m. until noon.

Paynic Home for Funerals in Rosewood Heights is in charge of local arrangements.