



Marjorie (Seddon) Johnson (1918 - 1985)


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Born **November 28, 1918** [location unknown]

Daughter of [father unknown] and [mother unknown]

[sibling(s) unknown]

[spouse(s) unknown]

[children unknown]

Died **December 31, 1985** in **Pennsylvania, USA**

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Last modified 3 December 2015.

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Biography

Her Memorial appears in *The Philadelphia News* on 03 Jan 1986 as follows:

Marjorie Johnson

Memorial Services will be tomorrow for Dr. Marjorie Seddon Johnson, a nationally known expert in reading education and a Temple University professor. Johnson, who died Tuesday, was 67 and lived in Flourtown, Montgomery County.

Johnson was appointed supervisor in 1948 of Temple's Laboratory School of the Reading Clinic in Montgomery County. Under her direction, Temple's lab school for children with reading disabilities became one of the outstanding schools of its kind in the nation.

From 1960 until her retirement in 1984, Johnson served at various times as acting director, associate director and director of Temple's Reading Clinic. She also was chairman of the Psychology of Reading Department in the College of Education from 1970 to 1978.

"Dr. Johnson will be remembered by the countless graduate students she taught as a challenging, demanding teacher who would not settle for less than their best performance," said Dr. Stanley Rosner, current chairman of the Psychology of Reading Department.

"She led numerous doctoral dissertations with clear, firm guidance and an unwillingness to have any dissertation leave the department that did not represent the highest standards of scholarship," said Rosner.

Johnson was widely known as a pipe smoker. She said substituting pipe smoking for cigarette smoking allowed her to "do her own thing."

Her expertise in reading education made her a frequent speaker at conferences throughout the United States.

Before coming to Temple she taught for several years at Springfield Township High School in Montgomery County.

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DNA

No known carriers of [Marjorie's ancestors' mitochondrial DNA](#) have taken an mtDNA test and no close relatives have taken a [23andMe](#), [AncestryDNA](#), or [Family Tree DNA "Family Finder"](#) test.

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[Omaha World Herald](#)

Johnson earned her bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees at Temple. She had authored dozens of papers for professional journals and edited several textbooks.

Her late husband was William Johnson.

She is survived by a sister, Nina Brock, and a nephew, Richard Brock.

The memorial service will be at 2 p.m. tomorrow at the First Presbyterian Church, Mill Road and Bethlehem Pike, Flourtown.

Contributions may be made to the Majorie S. Johnson Lecture Fund, Temple University, 083-09, Philadelphia, Pa. 19122.

Authored ***The READ Series*** of textbooks used to teach elementary school children to read. The series, published in 1968-71 included:

- First Step
- Second Step
- And So You Go!
- Be on the Go!
- Can You?
- Days and Ways
- Each and All
- Far and Away
- Gold and Silver
- High and Wide
- Ideas and Images
- Joys and Journeys
- Kings and Things
- Launchings and Landings

Sources

- "United States Social Security Death Index," database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:11MN-S3G> : accessed 18 October 2015), Marjorie Johnson, Dec 1985; citing U.S. Social Security Administration, Death Master File, database (Alexandria, Virginia: National Technical Information Service, ongoing).

Age: 67

Given Name: Marjorie

Surname: Johnson

Birth Date: 28 Nov 1918

State: Pennsylvania

Last Place of Residence: Flourtown, Montgomery, Pennsylvania

Previous Residence Postal Code: 19031

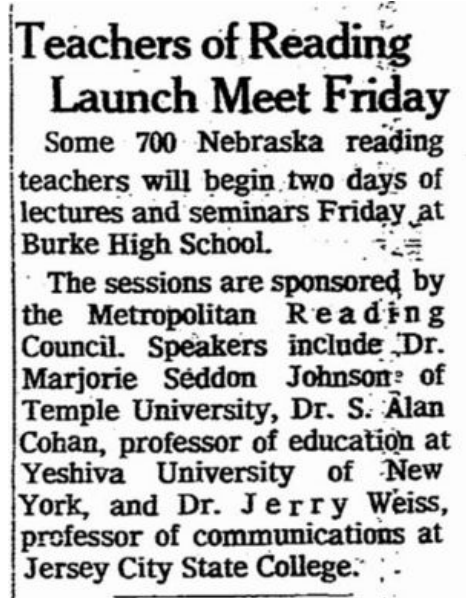
Event Date: Dec 1985

- Obituary. *The Philadelphia Inquirer*. 03 Jan 1986

MARJORIE JOHNSON, 67, AN EDUCATOR IN READING

Marjorie Seddon Johnson, 67, a nationally known expert in reading education, died Tuesday at Chestnut Hill Hospital. She lived in Flourtown.

She was director of the Temple University Reading Clinic from 1960 until she retired in 1984. She served as chairman of the psychology department in the university's College of Education from 1970 to 1978.



Collaboration

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There are no public comments yet.

She spent much of her life on Temple's campus, earning bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees there. Before joining the university's faculty, she taught at Springfield Township High School in Montgomery County.

In 1948, she was appointed supervisor of the Temple Reading Clinic's Laboratory School in Montgomery County. Under her direction, the laboratory school became a national model.

She was a demanding teacher and a strong administrator, and she was known for her unusual habit of smoking a pipe as a substitute for cigarettes.

She was a sought-after speaker, and she traveled the country addressing parent and teacher groups.

The widow of William Johnson, she is survived by a sister, Nina Brock.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday at the First Presbyterian Church, Mill Road and Bethlehem Pike, Flourtown.

Contributions may be made to the Majorie S. Johnson Lecture Fund, Temple University 083-09, Philadelphia 19122.

- Memorial Services Announcement *The Philadelphia News* on 03 Jan 1986
- *Omaha World Herald* [18 Mar 1971](#). p35

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