

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Gerald Johnson

PERSON

Johnson, Gerald, 1947-

Alternative Names: Gerald Johnson;

Life Dates: March 2, 1947-

Place of Birth: Charlotte, North Carolina, USA

Residence: Charlotte, NC

Work: Charlotte, NC

Occupations: Newspaper Publishing Chief Executive

Biographical Note

Successful publisher Gerald Oren Johnson was born in Charlotte, North Carolina, on March 2, 1947, to Willie L. Johnson and Thomasina Johnson. He graduated from West Charlotte High School in 1965 and went on to earn a B.A. in mathematics from Lincoln University in Pennsylvania in 1969 and an M.A. in mathematics from Villanova University in 1972.

From 1969 until 1973, Johnson worked as a programmer for Univac Sperry Rand. From 1969 to 1973 he taught mathematics and computer science and directed the Computer Center at Johnson C. Smith University. In 1978, he began working for Bank of America as a programmer and was promoted to vice president. In 1986, Johnson became CEO and publisher of The Charlotte Post and chairman of the Consolidated Media Group.

Johnson has many civic and community affiliations. He has also received numerous awards and honors for his contributions to the city of Charlotte. He has served as a member of the Mechanics and Farmers Advisory Board, the First Ward Community Reinvestment Board, and the Goodwill Industries Board. He has been an active participant in the Community Building Initiative, the Arts and Science Council, the Charlotte Chamber's Minority Business Leader Institute, "CHARLOTTE READS" leadership committee, and Partners For School Reform. He has also been co-chairman of the Finance Committee of the New Arena Committee, first vice president and publicity committee chairman of Theater Charlotte, and secretary and second vice president of the Discovery Place Board.

Johnson is a member of Mt. Carmel Baptist Church and has two daughters, Tania and Patrice, both living in North Carolina, and one grandson.

Related Entries

Lincoln University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Bank of America [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1997 to ?]

Vice President

Consolidated Media Group [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from ? to ?]

Chairman

Unicac Sperry Rand [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1969 to 1973]

Programmer

Johnson C. Smith University [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1996 to 1998]

Professor

Bank of America [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1978 to ?]

Programmer

Charlotte Post [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1986 to ?]

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Publisher