

Nathan J. Johnson (1905 – 1968)



Nathan J. Johnson was born in Alexandria, Louisiana on November 20, 1905 and raised in New Orleans. His intention was to continue his education. He moved north and for a time worked on Nantucket Island, but a death in his family led him to return to New Orleans. In 1927 he went to work for the U.S. Post Office; that was the beginning of a career which that would span three decades.

In 1945 Johnson and his family moved to Seattle, and subsequently in 1946 joined University Unitarian Church. There he served two terms as president of the congregation and later became the chair of the Building Committee which managed the construction of the current building on 35th Avenue NE. One committee member said “had he not been chair of the Building Committee the new church never would have been built.” He was a natural peacemaker and in recognition of his contribution to University Church honored him in 1960 by naming its social hall the Nathan J. Johnson Hall.

After 33 years as a letter carrier, ill health led him to retire in 1960. His involvement in the Seattle community was substantial, and the positions he held numerous. He served as vice president of Senior Centers, Inc. a senior-citizens group; a board member of the Seattle chapter of the United Nations Association; president of the East Madison Y’s Men, a group of Y.M.C.A. supporters; president of the Yesler-Atlantic Citizen Council; President of the Seattle-King County Council on Aging and the Governor’s State Council on Aging.

He died on August 3, 1968.

Source:

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