

Mr. Johnson was born in Hurlock, Maryland, eventually settling in Beaufort, North Carolina. He attended Florida State University earning a Bachelor of Science in Marketing. He was also a Reserve Officer Training Corp (ROTC) candidate and a Distinguished Military Graduate. After graduating from Florida State, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the US Air Force and was selected to attend Air Force pilot training, where he trained in the C-130 cargo plane.

In 1979, Mr. Johnson left the Air Force and began his automotive career, taking a position with Ford Motor Company as Service Zone Manager. He held several positions within Ford until 1985 when he got a chance to buy the dealership in Tarboro, North Carolina, Team Ford-Mercury. In 1989, he came to South Carolina to help a friend with his store in Conway.

Mr. Johnson has belonged to numerous civic organizations, including six chambers of commerce, the Horry Georgetown Technical College Foundation Board, the Wall School of Business Board of Visitors, and the Town of Ravenel Sewer Planning Board. Additionally, he served on the Board of Directors of South State Bank for more than twenty years, serving as Chairman of the Loan Committee, member of the Audit Committee and member of the Corporate Governance Committee.

He is President of the South Carolina Automobile Dealers Association and has served on the Board of Directors for over twenty years and currently owns and operates ten franchised automobile dealerships in South Carolina, stretching from the Grand Strand to the Pee Dee.