

Ernest Lamont Johnson, Jr. was born September 30, 1922. Known as Lamont Johnson, he was an American actor and film director who has appeared in and directed many television shows and movies.

Johnson was born in Stockton, California, the son of Ruth Alice (née Fairchild) and Ernest Lamont Johnson, who was a realtor.

Johnson was schooled in Pasadena City College and attended UCLA. He began performing in radio drama and worked as a radio announcer, also acting at the Pasadena Playhouse. During World War II he was classified as unfit for military service due to health problems, but worked with the USO entertaining troops in Europe.

Johnson began his career in radio, playing the role of Tarzan in a popular syndicated series in 1951. Johnson was also one of several actors to play Archie Goodwin in *The New Adventures of Nero Wolfe*, opposite Sydney Greenstreet on NBC Radio. He then turned to films and television, first as an actor, then as a director. He was particularly known for his work on 8 episodes of *The Twilight Zone*.

Johnson also directed productions of the operas *The Man in the Moon* (1959), *Iphigénie en Tauride* (1962), and *Orfeo* (1990).

Johnson was nominated for eleven Emmy Awards, winning twice, for *Wallenberg: A Hero's Story* (1985) which starred Richard Chamberlain, and for Gore Vidal's *Lincoln* (1988) starring Sam Waterston. He was also nominated for eight Directors Guild of America Awards, winning four times, for *Profiles in Courage* (1965), *My Sweet Charlie* (1971), *That Certain Summer* (1972), and *Lincoln*.

He ultimately had 78 credits for work on television, and an additional 44 credits as an actor. His final work was to direct an installment of the series *Felicity*.

Johnson's wife of 64 years, Tony Merrill Johnson, would pass away in 2009. Johnson would die of heart failure in California on October 24, 2010.

Research for this biography was taken from the British newspaper *Independent*, from the Internet Movie Database, and from Wikipedia. For Old Time Radio Researchers, I am your announcer, Patrick André. Thank you for listening.