

109 words



Charles S. Johnson  
June 14, 1948 - March 4, 2023

Known as dean of the Montana press corps, Chuck Johnson spent his 45-year career reporting on officials in the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of state and federal government. He wrote about numerous state legislative sessions and elections, as well as the consequential 1972 Constitutional Convention. He also generously mentored generations of journalists.

When he retired in 2017, Johnson was considered Montana's longest-serving statehouse reporter. Though he asked hard-hitting questions, he put interviewees at ease with his direct manner and fair reporting. "It's really the public's right to know," he liked to say. "Not the press's right to know."