JHV
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DR. Johnson, MELVYN

Melvyn Johnson, 85, a retired psychiatrist, died Nov. 10.

He was the husband of Elizabeth Duff-Johnson and the former husband of Charlotte G. Johnson of Palm Beach, Fla. Born in New Jersey, he was a son of the late Samuel and Jeanette (Silverstein) Johnson.

He was a graduate of Cornell University and Boston University School of Medicine and an Army veteran of World War II, serving as a captain.

Dr. Johnson was the first medical director at Family Service Association of Greater Fall River. He had previously maintained a private practice at Guidance Associates in Providence. He also was a psychiatric consultant at the Rhode Island School for the Deaf, the Providence Family Service, and several school districts. He was an early adviser at the James E. Fogarty Center.

Dr. Johnson was one of several people credited with rescuing Butler Hospital from closing in the 1950s, and was honored by its board of trustees on the 30th anniversary of the hospital's reopening.

He was a clinical assistant professor of psychiatry at Brown University Medical School, and had also taught at Boston University and the former Rhode Island Junior College.

Dr. Johnson was president of the Rhode Island Association of Mental Health and the Rhode Island Society of Neurology and Psychology, and was named a Distinguished Life Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association this year.

Besides his wife, he leaves four sons, Steven Duffy Johnson of Tiverton, Alan S. Johnson of Jamaica Plain, Mass., Peter A. Johnson of West Newton, Mass., and James D. Johnson of Chatanooga, Tenn.; and two grandchildren.

Burial was in Hillside Cemetery, Tiverton. Contributions may be made to the Pennfield School, Portsmouth, R.I.; or the Moses Brown School, Providence.