



For Immediate Release

May 28, 2020

Plano Mourns Community Hero Sam Johnson 1930-2020



Our own community hero, retired Congressman Sam Johnson passed away in Plano Wednesday of natural causes. Representative Johnson was a fearless patriot and American hero whose sacrifices will never be forgotten. He served in both the Korean War and Vietnam, where he survived seven years of torture as a prisoner of war at the Hanoi Hilton. After serving the nation as an Air Force Fighter pilot, he retired from the military in 1979 as a colonel. In 1984, he decided to get into politics, running for a seat in the Texas House of Representatives. He won and was reelected three times. He was elected to congress in 1991 and served for 28 years.

Last year, the City of Plano renamed our Senior Recreation Center to honor the former congressman. It is now called the Sam Johnson Recreation center for Adults 50+. It will forever honor a man who served all of us so well.

Rest in Peace, dear Sam. We mourn your passing, while honoring the distinguished service and deep commitment you showed to our country and our community.

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Editor's Note: Go to the City's [Media Center](#) for comprehensive information about the City of Plano.

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About Plano

Plano, Texas, is the largest city in Collin County with a population of 284,070 as of January 2019. Incorporated in 1873, the city is located 20 miles north of Dallas. Niche and AreaVibes recently named Plano as one of the Best Cities to Live in America. Forbes designated Plano one of America's safest cities. The City offers a high quality of life that includes nationally recognized schools, award-winning parks, and sustainability initiatives and a wide variety of multi-cultural neighborhoods appealing to families, young singles and retirees. Plano is home to the headquarters or regional operations of major corporations such as Toyota, Liberty Mutual, JPMorgan Chase, Boeing Global Services, Fannie Mae, FedEx Office, JC Penney, Rent-A-Center, Cinemark Holdings, Denbury Resources and Alliance Data Systems. Our dynamic community features excellent restaurants, vibrant shopping and entertainment venues, a lively historic downtown district and active local arts scene. Easy access to DART light rail and major highways makes Plano a convenient place to live, work and visit. To learn more about Plano, go to our website at plano.gov.