

Emmett G. (Pete) Dammon was born in Alexandria, Louisiana and raised in Port Arthur, Texas; he died in Slidell La October 2nd 2013. He proudly served his country, earning three battle stars as a U.S. Army Korean War Veteran. He attended Lamar University in Texas where he achieved his Bachelor Degree in Electrical Engineering. Pete worked on many projects as an Electrical Engineer; one of them was in support of the Gemini Project at Martin-Marietta. By 1979 Pete had started Dammon Engineering and was introduced to Rotary by Jack Stroupe. Pete served as a District Officer and was twice president of Rotary Club of Slidell, 1993 and 2001. During his tenure at Rotary Club of Slidell, Pete was awarded two (2) Paul Harris Fellows and was also an officer of the Easter Seals and Jazz on the Bayou. While at the Rotary Club of Slidell, Pete started hosting the Discover America Bus Tour in 2002, this is a group of Rotary Exchange Students. Pete sponsored several candidates to the Rotary Club of Slidell; one of them was Robert D. Johnson.

Robert D. Johnson was born and raised in Akron Ohio. From high school he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and went to the Officers Candidate Program eventually serving in the Korean Conflict. While in the Navy he earned his Bachelor of Science, his Masters and a PHD in physics and metallurgy. He also taught physics at University of Southern California. After earning a national reputation with Northrop Grumman, he eventually moved to Slidell, Louisiana with Martin Marietta where he specialized in manufacturing and materials for the external tank used with the space shuttle program. Along the way he met Pete Dammon an active member and advocate of Rotary. Immediately Robert found pleasure in service above self and spent 18 years in this endeavor. Robert served in many capacities and on many committees while in Rotary but he was most passionate about the scholarship program. Education was important to Robert. The last meeting of his 18 yr membership Robert attended in his wheelchair, accompanied by his wife Boni and his nurse. He was seated with his sponsor, Pete Dammon. The club announced the scholarship's renaming to the Robert "Bob" Johnson Scholarship in his honor. Those who knew him that day and there were many, greeted him with a standing ovation.