

GENEALOGY DATABASE ENTRY

©Vera V. Mainz and Gregory S. Girolami 1998

Johnson, William Summer

1913 - 1995

DEGREE: PhD

DATE: 1940

PLACE: Harvard

TEACHER/RESEARCH ADVISOR: Fieser

developed methods for the total synthesis of complex natural products by biomimetic pathways, including the hydrochrysen synthesis of steroids, biomimetic polyene cyclizations esp. allylic cation initiated cyclizations, asymmetric synthesis by chiral acetals, and the Stobb condensation; developed improved preparations of cortisone, hydrocortisone, progesterone, estrone, and aldosterone; studied the synthesis of quinoline derivatives and the use of diazomethane in organic synthesis; carried out the first experimental determination of the difference in enthalpy between the chair and boat forms of cyclohexane.

1. Personal communication (**8Jul93**).
2. *Tetrahedron* **1991**, 47(41), xi-l.
3. Johnson, W. S. *A Fifty-Year Love Affair with Organic Chemistry*; Am. Chem. Soc.: 1991.