Judy attended NMSU from 1969-1972, majoring in accounting. It was during those years that she and Michael, also an NMSU student at the time, met and married. Michael graduated in 1972, and Judy went on to finish her bachelor’s degree in accounting at the University of Houston. She has several other family members who are NMSU alumni, including her grandmother, father, sister and daughter.

She is a certified public accountant whose career experience over 30 years includes public accounting, private industry and local government. During 15 years working for the City of Houston, she served in several capacities, including both city controller and director of finance and administration.

Judy also serves the university through membership on the College of Business Advisory Council and the College of Education Board of Advocates.

Judy Johnson and her husband, Michael, have made generous contributions to NMSU, establishing the first endowed chair in the Department of Geological Sciences in the College of Arts and Sciences; creating the Lionel Haight Professorship in accounting in the College of Business; and establishing the Daisy Gray Undergraduate Endowed Scholarship in the College of Education. They have also contributed to the university’s Center for the Arts.

Now retired, the couple currently resides in northern New Mexico, where they have a small vineyard and a large garden. Their two grown children live in Texas.