



We are proud to be a certified CHAP provider of Hospice Services.

**Alvis F. Johnson**  
**Home Health & Hospice**  
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Dr. Alvis Francis Johnson played a critical role in the history of medicine in the United States and health care in Sutton County. Born in 1917 in Sonora, Dr. Johnson grew up as a working cowboy on the ranch of his grandfather, W. J. Fields. Founded in 1883, the ranch is still in the family. He attended Sonora High School, earned his BA at the University of Texas and his medical degree at the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston. In 1954, Dr. Johnson, a pediatrician, became one of the first pediatric cardiologists in the nation. In addition, Dr. Johnson taught pediatrics at UT Southwestern Medical School for 21 years and for 11 years served as medical director of Freeman Clinic, the only clinic for indigent children in Dallas at the time. Retiring from his medical career in 1983, he returned to his ranching roots in Sutton County, where he raised cattle and Angora goats for 17 years. He enjoyed life there with his wife, Patricia Craig Johnson, his Sonora cousins, and visits from his five children and numerous grandchildren. Dr. Johnson served as board president of the Lillian M. Hudspeth Memorial Hospital for 14 years and was instrumental in the creation of the Sutton County Hospital District and the Sutton County Health Foundation. He died at age 98 in November 2015, shortly after the hospital board voted to name its new home health care and hospice initiative in his honor.



### What is Hospice?

Hospice is specialized care that focuses on the medical, social, emotional, and spiritual needs of a patient facing a life-limiting illness or injury.

### Why should I use it?

Hospice caregivers try to control pain and other symptoms so patients can remain as alert and comfortable as possible. Hospice also provides assistance for families to help them cope with what is happening and provide care and support to keep the patient at home. Hospice covers the expense of medications, equipment, and supplies related to the illness.

### What should I expect?

When your doctor refers you for hospice services, we visit your home and discuss and set up your program of non-curative palliative care—care that reduces or eliminates pain and discomfort without attempting to cure the cause of the pain and symptoms.

Hospice services offered by **Alvis F. Johnson Home Health & Hospice** include medical services provided under the guidance of the medical doctor, who is a licensed physician. Volunteers provide additional services.

### Services provided under the guidance of the medical director:

- Palliative Care
- Social Services
- Family Support and Education
- Medication Reminders
- Spiritual Counseling and Support Services
- Family Bereavement Counseling

### Services provided by volunteers:

- Light Housekeeping
- Laundry
- Conversation and Companionship

