Sept. 16, 1817

*This Date in Missouri Senate History*

On *This Date in Missouri Senate History*, the date was Sept. 16, 1817, the birthdate of former state rep. and U.S. Sen. Waldo Johnson.

He was born in what is now West Virginia. Practicing law would take Johnson to Missouri in 1842. He would then serve in the First Missouri Regiment of Mounted Volunteers during the Mexican-American War.

Later, he would be elected to the Missouri House of Representatives. His single term would turn into a successful bid for circuit attorney, and then circuit judge in 1848 and ’51, respectively. Johnson would only stay for a year, before he would resign and move back into private practice.

Missouri senators would choose him to be a United States senator in 1861. Within 10 months, Johnson would be expelled for disloyalty to the government.

After a time in the Confederate Army, he would move to Canada, and then back to Missouri. Johnson was then president of the 1875 state constitutional convention.

He passed away in 1885.

September 16, 1817, the date marking birth of Waldo Porter Johnson, on *This Date in Missouri Senate History*.

(Source: [*Biographical Directory of the United States Congress*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biographical_Directory_of_the_United_States_Congress))