

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with John H. Hall, Jr.

PERSON

Hall, John H., 1946-

Alternative Names: John H. Hall, Jr.;

Life Dates: September 24, 1946-March 24, 2021

Place of Birth: Birmingham, Alabama, USA

Residence: Atlanta, GA

Work: Atlanta, GA

Occupations: Chemist

Biographical Note

Chemist and academic administrator John H. Hall, Jr. was born on September 24, 1946 to Mary Emma Hall and John H. Hall, Sr. He attended Morehouse College to receive his B.S. degree in chemistry with honors in 1969. With a scholarship for continued studies in chemistry, Hall then began his graduate studies at Harvard University. Hall worked with his research advisor, William N. Lipscomb, to better understand the nature of chemical bonds in boranes through electron orbital calculations. Lipscomb's work in borane structure earned him the 1976 Nobel Prize in chemistry. Hall graduated from Harvard University with his Ph.D. degree in theoretical computational chemistry in 1974.

Pursuing post-doctoral research work, Hall worked with Dr. William Guillory to develop models of mechanisms of the photolytic reactions occurring to deplete the ozone in the atmosphere during the 1970s. In 1979, Hall became an associate professor of chemistry at Morehouse College and senior research scientist at the School of Geophysical Sciences at the Georgia Institute of Technology, where he continued his research in atmospheric chemistry. Hall continued to study the chemical compounds and reactions of the stratosphere, including the chlorine and fluorine nitrate series, and the vibrational spectra of nitrate geometric isomers. His later work also focused on the effect that high concentrations of these highly-reactive compounds on human health, particularly low-income populations.

Hall served as a consultant for Innovations International, Inc., a company started by William Guillory that specialized in organizational development. He also served as the associate vice president for research at The Ohio State University for seven years before

returning to Morehouse College in 2001 as chair of the department of chemistry. Hall was later named the Bruce Raneur Professor of Natural Sciences at Morehouse College, where he has published numerous academic papers on physical and atmospheric chemistry. Hall and his wife, Susan Hall, also started Transformational Consultants International, Inc., where they specialized in improving workplace productivity and diversity. Hall's wife, Susan, passed away in 2008.

John Hall was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on April 14, 2011.

Hall passed away on March 24, 2021.

Related Entries

Anderson Park Elementary School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Henry McNeal Turner High School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Morehouse College [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

B.S. Chemistry

Harvard University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Ph.D. Chemistry

Transformational Consultants International, Inc. [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from ? to ?]

President and Founder

Morehouse College [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1979 to 1989]

Professor of Chemistry

Georgia Institute of Technology [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1979 to 1989]

Researcher

Jet Propulsion Laboratory [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1979 to 1979]

Fellow

Innovations International [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1990 to 1994]

Consultant

Ohio State University [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1994 to 2001]

Associate Vice President for Research

Morehouse College [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 2001 to ?]

Professor and Chair

Phi Beta Kappa Society [MEMBEROf]
[from ? to ?]

Member

American Chemical Society (ACS) [MEMBEROf]
[from ? to ?]

Member

National Organization for the Professional Advancement of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers (NOBCChE) [MEMBEROf]
[from ? to ?]

Member

Advisory Committee for Clean Water [MEMBEROf]
[from 2002 to 2002]