Janet Goodrich Chapman, a professor emeritus of economics at the University of Pittsburgh whose research into wages and consumer prices in the USSR exposed fundamental weaknesses in the Soviet economic system, died on December 5, 2012. She was 90.

She was born on May 26, 1922, in Brooklyn, New York, to Carter and Florence Goodrich. Her father was an economic historian who became a professor at Columbia University and the University of Pittsburgh; he also worked for the League of Nations in Geneva. Janet Goodrich graduated with a BA with High Honors in economics from Swarthmore College in January 1943. Immediately thereafter she married fellow Swarthmore graduate John W. Chapman. During WWII, when her husband was in the US Air Force, stationed in Okinawa, Janet Chapman worked in Washington, DC, as an economist for the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. After the war, Chapman and her husband earned their PhDs at Columbia University.

Chapman became a specialist in the economics of the Soviet Union. She worked as a consultant to the Economics Department of the Rand Corporation from 1949 to 1969, during which time she lived in Northampton, Massachusetts, and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where her husband was a professor of political theory. She published her dissertation research and subsequent research for Rand as a book, *Real Wages in Soviet Russia Since 1928* (Harvard University Press, 1963). For Rand she also produced reports on retail prices in the USSR (1950, 1952 and 1953) as well as a report titled *Wage Variation in Soviet Industry* (1970). For the National Council on Soviet and East European Research she wrote *The Soviet Employment Service and the Search for Efficiency* (1984). After a year living in Bombay, India, Chapman began teaching at the University of Pittsburgh. From 1964 to 1992 she was a faculty member in the Department of Economics, serving as chair from 1978 to 1985. She was instrumental in developing the study of Russia and Eastern Europe at Pitt, where she directed the Committee and Program on Russian and Eastern European Studies from 1965 to 1983. Chapman is the author of numerous articles on such topics as the Soviet consumer, earnings distribution under socialism, women’s wages in the Soviet Union, and Gorbachev’s wage reform.

She and her husband were frequent travelers to Russia, Poland, and other Eastern European countries. Chapman received an honorary degree from the Cracow Academy of Economics in 1990. She retired from the University of Pittsburgh in 1992 and moved to Lewes, Delaware. At the time of her death she resided in North Bethesda, Maryland. She is survived by her daughter, H. Perry Chapman, of Garrett Park, Maryland, and two grandchildren, Alexandra Chapman Niemczewski and Martin Perry Niemczewski.