



Judge Michael E. Allen

December 16, 1949 - January 26, 2018

Tallahassee – Michael E. Allen, born on December 16, 1949 in Quincy, Florida to N. E. “Gene” and Mary Jane Allen, passed into the loving arms of our Lord Jesus Christ on January 26, 2018 in Houston, Texas.

Mike was known for his wisdom, kindness, generosity, humility, unique sense of humor, his faith, and passionate devotion to his wife, daughters, and grandchildren. He fully enjoyed all of life’s simple pleasures like good food, fishing, telling jokes, watching baseball, reading, teaching, and most of all, spending time in the company of those he loved.

Mike graduated from Quincy High School in 1967 and earned his B.S. from Florida State University in 1971 and his J.D. from Stetson University College of Law in 1975. He served as the elected Public Defender for the Second Judicial Circuit from January 1981 to January 1990, and then served as a judge on the First District Court of Appeal from January 1990 to September 2009. He was Chief Judge on the Court from July 2001 to June 2003. Mike also authored a book entitled Florida Criminal Practice and Procedure for the West’s Florida Practice Series.

Mike was involved in many judicial, legal, and teaching activities throughout his career. He served as President of the Florida Conference of District Court of Appeal Judges, Chairman of the District Court of Appeal Budget Commission, Adjunct Professor at Florida State University College of Law, and as a faculty member of the Florida College of Advanced Judicial Studies. He was twice elected president of the Florida Public Defender Association and

served on numerous committees and boards throughout his career.

In 1995, Mike received the L. Clayton Nance Award (for distinguished public service), was made an Honorary Life Member of the Florida Public Defender Association in 1989, and was the First Honorary Member of the Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers in 1990.

Mike leaves his wife of 46 years, Hilda; his daughters, Susan Allen Wellman (Andrew) and Sarah Allen Erb (Jeff); his three precious grandchildren, Claire, Megan, and Wyatt Wellman; his father, Gene Allen (Kathy); his sister, Judy Wray (Chuck); his niece, Charity Aselton (Tim), his mother-in-law, Juanita Russell; his sister-in-law, Janice Banka (John Slemkewicz); and other adoring family members and friends. He will be mourned by the many people who loved him. Mike was preceded in death by his mother, Mary Jane Allen.

A memorial service celebrating Mike's life will be held on Saturday, February 17, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. at Bevis Funeral Home, located at 200 John Knox Road, Tallahassee, FL 32303. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that contributions be made in the memory of Michael E. Allen to the Ovarian Cancer Research Fund Alliance, Post Office Box 32141, New York, NY 10087-2141 or online at <https://ocrfa.org/get-involved/ways-to-give/>.

Rocky Bevis of Bevis Funeral Home in Tallahassee (850-385-2193 or www.bevisfh.com) is assisting the Allen family with their arrangements.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

FEB 17. 2:00 PM (ET)

Bevis Funeral Home & Crematory
200 John Knox Rd
Tallahassee, FL 32303
(850) 385-2193

Reception

FEB 17. 3:00 PM (ET)

Bevis Funeral Home & Crematory
200 John Knox Rd
Tallahassee, FL 32303
(850) 385-2193

Tribute Wall



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of Judge Michael E. Allen.



February 16, 2018 at 02:52 PM



“ *Fairest of All* was purchased for the family of Judge Michael E. Allen.



February 10, 2018 at 05:00 PM



“ *Judges and Staff, First District Court of Appeal* purchased the *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of Judge Michael E. Allen.



Judges and Staff, First District Court of Appeal - February 07, 2018 at 11:00 AM

JE

“ *Hilda and family, i am shocked and saddened to hear about Mike’s sudden passing. Sending my most sincere condolences. Life deals us all some things that we don’t understand but, we have to keep our faith in the Lord and know that he has a plan and a purpose for everyone. It is really hard not to question and ask why but, this is where faith comes in and keeps us going. We have to learn to accept the loss of a loved one and keep memories of them in our heart and never forget how wonderful they were and how much they meant to us. Be strong in your faith and the Lord will help you through these difficult times. Love, Jerry Baker*

JerrybBaker - February 06, 2018 at 06:52 PM



“ *He was an honorable man, a good judge and an all around good person....*

lucy morgan

Lucy Morgan - January 30, 2018 at 05:11 PM

LB

“ To the family of Judge Michael E. Allen. Many years ago, I was a beginning prosecutor in the 2nd Judicial Circuit. I was working in Quincy, in the misdemeanor section. One day, during our weekly County Court proceedings, the assistant public defender was out due to illness, and THE public defender was filling in. I was not an experienced prosecutor, and my repeated flubs were apparent. Mr. Mike Allen handled those proceedings, opposite me, representing his clients with dignity and grace, and he was the utmost professional to me, he was very kind, and helped me through the court proceedings. I should mention that the County Judge did not have much patience, but Mr. Allen soothed the way. At the end of the docket, we went to lunch together, and although I was many years his junior, and we served on opposite sides, we became friends. I have never forgotten that day, and I am proud that Mike Allen was my friend.

Mike will be sorely missed -- Lo Bielby

Lo Bielby - January 30, 2018 at 02:52 PM

NC

“ With fond and loving memories, I remember Michael. Our last conversation on the telephone, we reminisced, shared laughter and he talked about you, Hilda and your wonderful life together. Death leaves a heartache no one can heal. Love leaves a memory no one can steal.



Nancy L. Calhoun - January 29, 2018 at 03:55 PM