

# **Memorial Resolution**

## **HONORABLE DOUGLAS ALEXANDER MEYER**

**1932 - 2017**

Judge Douglas A. Meyer was born in Chattanooga, Tennessee on November 30, 1932.

He graduated from Chattanooga City High School, and after serving in the United States Army, graduated from the University of Chattanooga. He received his law degree from the University of Tennessee in 1956.

Judge Meyer began the practice of law in Chattanooga in 1957. From 1961 until 1967 he served as an Assistant District Attorney General, and as an Assistant County Attorney for Hamilton County. Judge Meyer was appointed Chattanooga City Judge in Division I, in January 1977 and was elected to that position in which he served until August 1982. He was elected to the 11th Judicial District, Division I, Criminal Court bench and began his service on September 1, 1982. He was re-elected twice, retiring from the bench on August 31, 2006. He was a member of the Chattanooga Bar Association, Tennessee Judicial Conference, American Judicature Society and the American Judges Association.

Judge Meyer was active in his community. He was a past president of the Chattanooga Jaycees, and served Joseph Johnson Mental Health Center, Hamilton County Mental Health Association, Bethel Bible Village and both Chattanooga High and University of Chattanooga Alumni Associations. He served on the Boards of Trustees of the University of Chattanooga, Orange Grove School, Chattanooga Area Literacy Movement and Chattanooga Area Council on Alcoholism. He was a member of Temple Lodge Number 430 F. and A.M., Scottish Rite, and Alhambra Shrine.

Judge Meyer was a voracious reader and pursued knowledge throughout his life. He frequently attended the National Judicial College, American Academy of Judicial Education, and AJA Annual Education Conferences. He enjoyed the study of history and as a dedicated genealogist was a member of Clan Douglass, the

Scottish Society of Chattanooga, and Sons of the American Revolution. As a keen student of history he often entertained jurors with history trivia while waiting on attorneys during voir dire. One of his favorite subjects, Andrew Jackson, was often introduced by his reference to a large portrait of a young Judge Jackson which he prominently displayed in the courtroom.

Judge Meyer was an avid golfer. He resided on the Rivermont Golf Course where he often enjoyed walking and playing. He loved animals. His constant companions were his dogs, many of which were Scotties and Westies. He was intrigued with hippos and had a collection of miniatures given to him by his many friends.

Judge Meyer moved to Daytona Beach Shores, Florida after his retirement from the bench. His home was near the beach where he walked daily. He enjoyed hosting friends from Chattanooga. When he encountered failing health, he moved to Nashville to be closer to his son Rob, a practicing attorney.

Judge Meyer passed away February 12, 2017 at the age of 84. He is survived by his wife Carol Meyer and sons Alex and Rob, daughter-in-law Liesel and grandsons Blake and Will, brothers Frank Jr. and Gene, and many nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews.

Judge Meyer served Chattanooga, Hamilton County, and the State of Tennessee with honor and distinction. He is fondly remembered. He presided over thousands of cases including some which gained national attention. Throughout all he was respected as one who carefully considered both sides of an issue and displayed fairness and compassion to all litigants.

Respectfully submitted this 14<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2017.

Barry A. Steelman  
Criminal Court Judge, 11<sup>th</sup> Judicial District