

# FMJA In Memoriam 2021-2022



Presented by FMJA History Committee  
July 25, 2022

The Association is composed of active, retired and recalled United States Magistrate Judges. Our purpose is to promote the efficient administration of justice, to protect the integrity, dignity and independence of the federal judiciary and to educate the public about the important role that federal magistrate judges play in the federal judiciary.



## Hon. Lawrence P. Cohen

Lawrence Cohen was a Magistrate Judge for the District of Massachusetts. He was born in 1939 in Schenectady, New York and died on December 26, 2021 at the age of 82. He graduated from the University of Vermont in 1963, and from the Albany Law School in 1966. After his graduation from law school, he served as a trial attorney with the Criminal Division of the United States Department of Justice from 1966 to 1969. He also served as an Assistant Attorney General for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts from 1969 through November 1970, then

became an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Massachusetts. He was Deputy Chief of the Criminal Division of the United States Attorney's Office until his appointment in June of 1976. He served as a Magistrate Judge for 29 years until his retirement in 2005.

Judge Cohen leaves a legacy of kindness and love for his family, his work, the Federal Court in Boston and for all the people who worked in the court family, regardless of their capacity. As the Chief Judge recalled, "Judge Cohen was an important member of the court family – he knew everyone's name and is remembered for always being there to lend a hand and to share a smile." Others said he was warm, supportive and a rigorously independent thinker who loved mentoring others, including newly appointed judges. He is remembered as a brilliant man who welcomed challenges and found ways to pioneer innovations to better manage cases and the court workload. He was indeed a very special, yet humble, person who never sought praise for his accomplishments. He cared deeply about the court and the litigants, and will be very much missed.

## Hon. Glen Conrad

Glen Conrad was a District Judge, formerly a Magistrate Judge, for the Western District of Virginia. He died on May 20, 2021 at the age of 71. Judge Conrad received his undergraduate degree from the College of William & Mary in 1971 and his law degree from the College's Marshall-Wythe School of Law in 1974. Before taking the bench, he served as a probation officer and law clerk. Judge Conrad was appointed as a Magistrate Judge on May 24, 1976 and served in that capacity in the Abingdon, Charlottesville, and Roanoke divisions. At the time of his appointment as a Magistrate Judge, he was the youngest Magistrate Judge in the nation. He served for 27 years until October 16, 2003, when he was confirmed as United States District Judge. He assumed senior status in December of 2017, but continued to maintain a full civil caseload.



Throughout his career, Judge Conrad was highly regarded for his kind and patient temperament, keen intelligence, and abiding sense of fairness. Indeed, he was known for serving with humility and respect for others. He was a teacher and mentor to many young attorneys, including his law clerks and others. In fact, once a person was in his life, it did not matter that his extended court and college family spread across the country, Judge Conrad remained in touch with each member and often visited them in person or by phone or email. His empathy for everyone who appeared before him was apparent, as was his love for his job. Judge Conrad especially enjoyed the naturalization ceremonies over which he presided, and he often spoke fondly of the stories shared and the people he met from all over the world. The love of travel was at his core. His travels with his beloved wife took him all over the world, cruising the rivers of Europe, exploring castles, sampling single malt scotch with lifelong friends, and making new friends along the way. He is remembered as good person who treated everyone with kindness and respect, and truly a "man among men."

## Hon. John C. Gargiulo



John C. Gargiulo of Gulfport died on Oct. 3, 2021, of cancer, while in office. He was 54. Judge Gargiulo was born in South Dakota, but his family moved often following his father's various military assignments, ultimately ending up in south Mississippi. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in political science from the University of Southern Mississippi. He earned a Juris Doctor from the University of Mississippi School of Law in 1998. Judge Gargiulo served on active duty in the U.S. Army 1989-1994. He was an intelligence officer during Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm, concluding his active duty as Battalion Operations Officer. He served in the U.S. Army Reserve 2000-2001, and joined the Mississippi Army National Guard in December 2001 and retired as a Colonel.

He served as Administrative Services Chief of the 1108th AVCRAD in Gulfport. Judge Gargiulo was appointed as a Magistrate Judge for the Southern District of Mississippi on August 1, 2014. Before his appointment, he served for five years on the Mississippi's Second Circuit Court and had been sworn in July 14, 2009. He previously served for nine years as an assistant district attorney for Mississippi's Second Circuit Court District.

As stated in his obituary, Judge Gargiulo had a "wicked sense of humor" and was fond of practical jokes. He loved when his victims successfully "returned the favor" and their approval rating skyrocketed. Judge Gargiulo was a history buff and soaked up every possible fact regarding ancient Rome, WWI, WWII, ancient aliens, and combats. Tour guides quickly crumbled when he started asking questions.

Among various tributes to Judge Gargiulo's lustrous, albeit short, career, pillars of the community honored his service. Chief U. S. District Judge Daniel P. Jordan III said, "Since his appointment in August of 2014, Judge Gargiulo has served our court with efficiency and distinction, and he will be sorely missed." Senior Circuit Court Judge Lisa P. Dodson remembered Judge Gargiulo, "He and I were in the District Attorney's office together and then we were Circuit Judges as well. He was a fine person. He was an excellent judge. He was always very concerned about the folks who came in front of him and always wanted to be fair. We are going to miss him – his sense of humor and the professionalism that he brought to the bench. It's just been a sad day for everybody that knew him." Harrison County Circuit Clerk Connie Ladner had known Judge Gargiulo since they went to school together. "He was a great father, attorney, prosecutor, Circuit Judge and Magistrate Judge and served his country," she said. "But most of all he was a good person. As much as we loved him in Circuit Court, we were so happy for his success" when he was appointed a federal magistrate. Judge Gargiulo will be remembered as a judge who was fair, humble, organized, hard-working and respectful of all who entered his courtroom.



## Hon. Ronald L. Howland



Ronald Howland was a Magistrate Judge for the Western District of Oklahoma. He was born on March 27, 1934 and passed away on August 10, 2021. He was appointed November 27, 1978 and retired March 27, 1999, and then went on recall until March 30, 2008. In total, he served 30 years as a Magistrate Judge. As written in his obituary, Judge Rowland epitomized the Greatest Generation.

As a child of the depression, he learned sacrifice, hardship and responsibility at a young age. Judge Rowland first served his country in an Artillery Division of the United States Army in Korea. While in the military, he graduated from the Army's Aviation School, Primary Helicopter School, and finally Army Command and General Staff School. He served in the Army National Guard as a pilot flying over 3000 hours, finally retiring as a Colonel and Master Army Aviator with 30 years of service and numerous medals of commendation and distinguished service.

He attended the University of Oklahoma where he also obtained his J.D. degree in 1964. After graduation from law school, Judge Howland served as a law clerk to a federal judge, served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney, entered private practice for a period of time, and then returned to being a law clerk, during which time, he was appointed a U.S. Magistrate Judge. Judge Howland's most challenging moment came in April of 1995 when he presided over the arraignment, preliminary hearing and detention hearing for Timothy McVeigh, the domestic terrorist responsible for the OKC Murrah Federal Building bombing. In the midst of community crisis and national angst, Judge Howland held firm, remained steadfast and staunchly protected the due process of law. For his leadership and stalwart commitment to the court, Judge Howland received the "Reflections of Hope" award from the Oklahoma City National Memorial in 2015.

Judge Rowland devoted his life to his family, friends and church. From various times, places and moments of his life, Ron amassed numerous friends through his generosity, thoughtfulness and attentive kindness. He lived a life of service to his county, devotion to church, friends and family and unwavering dedication to justice and equanimity to all. He lived a life of Honor above all: integrity, accountability, responsibility and fidelity to justice, fairness and service.



## Hon. James E. Kenkel



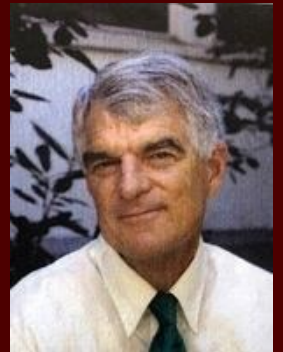
James Kenkel was a Magistrate Judge for the District of Maryland. He was born on January 1, 1934 and passed away peacefully on January 8, 2022 at the age of 88. He graduated from the University of Maryland in 1955 and then entered the U.S. Navy Officer's Candidate School. He served three years as an Aviation Intelligence Officer in California and was deployed to the Western Pacific. He continued serving in the Navy Reserve, retiring as a Captain in 1987. Judge Kenkel earned his law degree from Georgetown University Law School. After working for the Treasury Department, the Central Intelligence Agency, and the U.S. Information Agency, Judge Kenkel embarked on a four-decade legal career in private practice and public service. He served as the

Deputy State's Attorney for Prince George's County, Maryland, and later as a Juvenile Master (Judge). He was a litigation partner and later served as the District Public Defender for Prince George's County. Judge Kenkel was appointed to the bench in 1985 and retired in 1997.

Following his retirement, Judge Kenkel volunteered his time to many organizations. Among his many activities, he was a long-time member of the Civil Air Patrol, where he supported CAP's emergency search-and-rescue and US Air Force ROTC flight orientation programs. He loved sailing, scuba diving and flying. Judge Kenkel was a man who devoted his life to his country and his court. He will be remembered as a role model and a dedicated patriot who was a positive influence to many.

## Hon. Arthur H. Latimer

Judge Arthur Latimer was born on September 26, 1940 and died October 9, 2021 in Carmel Valley, California. He was 81. He is a graduate of Dartmouth College and attended both Oxford University and Harvard Law School, where he obtained two law degrees. He was appointed a Magistrate Judge for the District of Connecticut on January 25, 1971, as Connecticut's first full-time Magistrate Judge, and retired on October 31, 1993. He had previously been appointed a United States Commissioner in 1969. Following his retirement in his mid-fifties, Judge Latimer went to Yale Divinity School in theology to pursue his calling as a minister in the United Church of Christ.



A long-lasting kidney transplant prolonged his healthy life and his second career as a pastor. He was not done with the law, however. In his role as pastor, he and another judge mentored a local Indian tribe with its treaties in Connecticut and with various land disputes. Ultimately, this cooperation led to establishment of a Tribal Court. In 2016, his portrait, along with other long-serving Magistrate Judges, was unveiled at the Richard C. Lee Courthouse in New Haven, Connecticut. The then-Chief Judge remarked, "Our district and our nation will be forever grateful for [his] commitment to fairness and justice to the thousands of litigants that have appeared before [him]." In retirement, he and his wife moved west to Carmel Valley and quickly became integral parts of that community. He loved music and was a skilled French horn player and avid singer. Music infused his life and brightened the lives of others in and out of church. Arthur had deep empathy and a roving intellectual curiosity which were paired with a brilliantly zany sense of humor. His positive influence of many will long be remembered.





## Hon. Anthony R. Mautone

Judge Mautone was a part-time Magistrate Judge for the District of New Jersey. He passed away on October 23, 2021, after a sudden illness. He was 78 years old. He attended Villanova University and Seton Hall University School of Law. Judge Mautone was appointed a part-time United States Magistrate Judge for the District Court for New Jersey in 2000. This position enabled him to continue the practice of law in the State courts and civil practice in the Federal courts which was of great importance to him. He had been a practicing attorney since 1969.

From 1968 to 1978, he worked in the Essex County Prosecutor's Office. Attorney Mautone investigated and tried cases in the areas of fraud, police

corruption, organized crime, common law felonies, murder, and every area of the criminal law. In 1978, Attorney Mautone went into private practice and represented both plaintiffs and defendants in complex civil cases throughout his career. As a Magistrate Judge, he was known as fair judge who did not let outside factors influence his decisions. For instance, he once sentenced Bruce Springsteen to pay \$540 on charges that he consumed alcohol in a federal recreation area.

Anthony was known as a great man, fair to all and stern when he needed to be. In his practice, he was known a great attorney, a great storyteller, and a great guy. When he walked into a room, he simply commanded the room. Throughout his career, Attorney Mautone was a mentor to those who were seasoned practitioners as well as those who were new in the field. One opposing counsel remembers learning a lot from Attorney Mautone's skill as a trial lawyer, and recalls a fond memory when Attorney Mautone put his arm around the then-young opposing counsel, after soundly beating him, and said, "Let me tell you what I just did to you, kid." He was always available and willing to talk about legal and personal issues. He will be remembered as a brilliant lawyer with a great sense of humor, the heaviest of hitters, but at the same time, down to earth.

## Hon. Harry W. McKee

Harry W. "Peter" McKee was a Magistrate Judge for the Eastern District of Texas. He was born on October 21, 1940 and died May 13, 2022. He was a native of Mandon, North Dakota. He graduated from the University of North Dakota in 1963 and attended George Washington University, getting his J.D. degree 1966. Following law school, he worked as a trial attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice from 1966-1979. He supervised the condemnation cases pending in Alabama, Delaware, Georgia,



Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New Hampshire, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island and the Virgin Islands. He then moved to Beaumont, Texas to help in the U.S. Attorney's increasing caseloads. He served as a AUSA from 1979-1982. His career also included three years of service on the Capitol Hill Police Force. He was appointed as a Magistrate Judge on August 6, 1982 and retired on January 1, 2006. He served for a total of 24 years. He loved his job beyond measure. His motto was "get the job done and do it right." He was known as a person who was intellectually honest and could get along with everyone.



### **Hon. Kent Sandidge, III**

Kent Sandidge was a Magistrate Judge for the Middle District of Tennessee. He was born on December 28, 1929 and died on December 18, 2021 at the age of 91. He graduated from Vanderbilt University with a Political Science degree in 1952, and then enlisted and served in the United States Navy for two years. In 1956, he graduated from Vanderbilt University Law School with his J.D. degree. Following law school, he became an Assistant U.S. District Attorney in Nashville before being appointed to the bench in 1972. He served on the bench until January 1995 and then went on recall for a time.

Judge Sandidge was the first Magistrate Judge in the Middle District of Tennessee. He was instrumental in defining the role that Magistrate Judges play in the court's system of justice and was respected for his sense of justice. Judge Sandidge was also known for his great sense of humor and other fine qualities which made him loved by the court family. He was also an avid outdoorsman. He loved camping, waterskiing, hiking, white water rafting, snow skiing, and traveling. He took frequent boat trips down the Colorado River and through the Grand Canyon. He and his wife loved to travel the globe, and they planned their trips around his love of food. He had a special passion for early British sportscars and Labrador Retrievers. Judge Sandidge will be missed by all who knew him.

### **Hon. Charlene Sorrentino**



Charlene (Sharley) Sorrentino was a Magistrate Judge for the Southern District of Florida. She was born in Jacksonville, Florida on March 28, 1942 and passed away on January 16, 2022. Sharley graduated from the University of Florida in 1961 and the University of Miami School of Law in 1967. She passed the Florida Bar Exam with the highest score in the state. After law school, she clerked in federal court and then became an Assistant Federal Defender. In 1975, she was appointed as a Magistrate Judge and served on the bench for 28 years.

She was a compassionate and generous person. Her kindness extended without bias. For instance, she was a lover of all God's creatures, great and small. She joyfully served on the Board of Directors for the Humane Society of Greater Miami. Judge Sorrentino was a lover of books and encouraged others to be as well. She was an accomplished flautist, a talented artist, a pen pal to great nieces, and a long time choir member at University Baptist Church in Coral Gables and a member of First Baptist Church Winter Garden. She collected Gilbert American Flyer model trains and had a deep appreciation for the beauty found in God's creation. She enjoyed many travels with her sisters and the friendship and love that were theirs for a lifetime. She was positive influence on many and her encouragement of everyone she encountered will be sorely missed.



## **Hon. Kathleen A. Tomlinson**

Kathleen Tomlinson died on October 17, 2021 while in office, after a long battle with cancer. Judge Tomlinson was appointed as a Magistrate Judge for the Eastern District of New York on February 24, 2006. She was born in Philadelphia on September 10, 1948, and was raised with her five siblings in the southern New Jersey area. She received her B.A. degree from Rutgers University in 1972 and her M.A. degree from Long Island University in 1975.

She worked as an academic administrator for Long Island University until she went to law school. . Law was a second career for Judge Tomlinson. Working her way through law school at night while maintaining her career at Long Island University, she earned her law degree from St. John's University Law School in 1987. She began her legal career by joining the Nassau County Legal Aid Society, and then served as a law clerk. Following her clerkship, Judge Tomlinson entered private practice, where she became a partner in 1998, specializing in employment and labor relations. Prior to taking the bench in 2006, Judge Tomlinson had been honored as one of the "Top 50 Women in Business" by Long Island Business News.

Judge Tomlinson had an unwavering commitment to promoting civics education and inspiring students across Long Island through her membership in the Federal Bar Association and on the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit's Civics Education Committee. At her core, she lived for others and not herself. She lived her life always intent on making a difference in others' lives, particularly those who were disadvantaged. She will be remembered for her warmth and kindness, her indefatigable work ethic, and her devotion to the training and mentoring of junior attorneys. Basically, she was one of the nicest people you could ever meet. Although soft-spoken, she commanded respect of her peers and will be deeply missed by the bench and bar.

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