



## Judge John W. Booth

January 13, 1924 - May 20, 2018

Retired Circuit Judge John W. Booth, 94, passed away at home on May 20, 2018 surrounded by his loving wife of 55 years and two daughters.

A fourth generation Floridian, John was born on January 13, 1924, and then raised in Gainesville. He was the only son to John and Gertrude Booth. After serving in the Army Air Force during World War II, John attended the University of Florida, where he made many close and life-long friends. John graduated from UF in 1949 and Stetson Law School in 1951. After practicing law for several years in Palatka and Leesburg, John was appointed as Lake County Judge in 1967 and then elected in 1968 as 5th Circuit Judge, where he faithfully served for 31 years, plus a number of years serving as a Senior Judge. He lived his personal and professional life following Socrates, "to hear courteously, to answer wisely, to consider soberly, and to decide impartially." John was an avid hunter and fisherman and will be greatly missed. He is survived by his wife, Marie, and daughters Rebecca (Wylie) Hill of Leesburg, FL and Suzanne Booth of Atlanta, GA and four grandchildren: John, Matthew, Nash and Andrew. There will be a private family service at his beloved lake home in Melrose, Florida. In lieu of flowers, please donate to the St. James Memorial Fund, Leesburg, FL.

# Tribute Wall

DF

“ He was one of the finest men I will ever have the pleasure of knowing. His example and impact on my life was no less important as was my own fathers.



Donny Fugate - June 13, 2018 at 09:15 AM

TF

“ So sorry to here of his passing. He was a great man.



The Fugate Family - June 07, 2018 at 10:07 AM

NB

“ You were a great neighbor on lake Rosa. Going to miss you. Condolences and prayers to the Family.



Nancy Jordan Buz & Roger Buz - May 29, 2018 at 07:37 AM

CP

Was his bailiff for many years when he would come to Hernando County Florida. He was always calm steady and impartial in his administration of justice. He displayed strength in being reserved but also kind to the staff as a visiting judge. He is someone I looked up who I greatly missed.

Charles Peyton - August 30, 2022 at 08:12 AM

SS

“ I am so sorry to hear of Judge Booth's passing. He was a great and honorable man whom I enjoyed working for and with for quite a few years. He taught me so much and his integrity was instilled in me forever. I still have the picture of him and my dad at our hunting camp many years ago. He will be missed by so many. My condolences to his entire family and friends.

Sandra Strong - May 26, 2018 at 02:00 PM

SM

“ I am sorry to hear about Judge Booth. It was a pleasure to know him and work with during his time on the bench in Sumter County. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Sara "Bunny" Mason - May 25, 2018 at 01:45 PM

JF

“ Rebecca and Mrs. Booth,

I am very sorry to hear the passing of Judge Booth. Your family will be in my heart and prayers.

Jackie Gunter Faunda

Jackie Faunda - May 25, 2018 at 08:50 AM

RT

“ John was a great neighbor, and friend. He will be missed. Love and condolences to Marie, the girls, and grand children.



Randy & Carole Thompson - May 24, 2018 at 11:02 PM

PT

“ Judge Booth was such a fine man. He was the first Judge that I served under as a Clerk. My Dad was his bailiff in the 70's & friend. He will be greatly missed.



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**Pam Floyd Tompkins** - May 24, 2018 at 09:25 AM

DC

“ I so enjoyed working with Judge Booth when he worked as a Senior Judge in Marion County. He was so kind and thoughtful -- and always eager to get to his place in Melrose for a visit. He will be sorely missed.



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**Debbie Clark** - May 24, 2018 at 01:02 AM

RJ

“ I remember the stories of hunting deer and quail and Dad, Marie (Sarge) and I sitting in the lake house talking about all the great bird dogs Judge owned. He loved them dogs. That was before Rebecca and Suzanne came along. I'll never forget the times in the Ocala National Forest where we rode around in his Jeep. Later in life, I really appreciated his stories about my dad and Granddad Bayless, since my dad died when I was 10. I'll never forget the time I carried Judge to Rodman Dam and he caught all those speckled perch, I was so glad for him! That was a special moment for me. I love you Judge, I will miss you. Junior

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**Roy Jordan Jr.** - May 23, 2018 at 10:30 PM

JF

“ I always looked up to John Booth...first as a young lawyer, then later as I became a judge. I had the opportunity to work closely with him when I used to get frequently assigned to leave Marion County and sit in Hernando and Sumter Counties early in my judicial career. I shall miss this man, and I offer my condolences to his family. His was truly a life well-lived, and he did a lot of good along the way. Rest in peace.

John Futch - May 23, 2018 at 08:58 PM

FC

“ One of the first Judges I worked with upon beginning my years in the Judicial System. I always enjoyed watching and learning from him.



Faye Osebold, Lake County - May 23, 2018 at 10:51 AM

KC

“ I am so saddened to hear of Judge Booth's passing. Your family is in my thoughts and prayers.



Kathy and Chuck Corden - May 23, 2018 at 10:50 AM

DH

“ With Deepest Sympathy.



Diane Hagert - May 23, 2018 at 10:37 AM

LR

“ *My deepest condolences to the entire family! May you be comforted by His love during this most difficult time.*

Lori Feustel - Rheume - May 23, 2018 at 06:19 AM

SK

“ *Sending our love and condolences. Peace be with you.*



Steve & Elizabeth Knowles - May 22, 2018 at 08:19 PM

TS

“ *I am so sorry for you loss..... The Judge was bigger than life. May the wonderful memories comfort you through these difficult times.....*

Tim Sennett - May 22, 2018 at 02:34 PM

LH

“ *Dear Ms. Marie and family, When I first started working for the Fifth Circuit I was assigned to the Judge to help with his docket when he was in town, as he was a Senior Judge by then. I cherished all his stories of "old" cases as well as his hunting stories. Once he knew that I too was a hunter he would email or call me at the beginning or the end of the season so we could "tally up" what we seen or what we got. Even though it has been some time since we have done this I still think of him every hunting season. Picturing him sitting in his shooting house, in his comfy chair waiting on a big buck, always brings a smile to my face. His spirit will be with me from now on during hunting season and hopefully we will a big one together. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. God Bless Linda*

Linda Holm - May 22, 2018 at 11:32 AM

MF

“ Dear Marie and Family....it is with great sadness that I read this morning of John's passing. Please know that you and your family are in the thoughts of the Avera family. Our deepest condolences.

*John led a wonderful life. Your home at Lake Rosa is a source of wonderful childhood memories for so many of us. The memory of sitting in your living room and watching Neil Armstrong step foot on the moon will always be with me.*

*Mark Avera & Family....*

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**Mark Avera & family** - May 22, 2018 at 06:22 AM