



Judge John A. Parkins, Jr.

The Honorable John A. Parkins Jr. was appointed to the Superior Court by former Governor Ruth Ann Minner and began service on August 21, 2008.

Judge Parkins clerked for the Delaware Supreme Court for former Justice Daniel F. Wolcott and the then Associate Justice Daniel L. Herrmann. Afterward he became an associate at the now defunct firm of Murdock, Longobardi, Schwartz & Walsh.

At the age of 29 he became a Deputy Attorney General in the Delaware Department of Justice. He began representing the Department of Correction and was also Chief of the Appeals Division.

Judge Parkins worked in private practice for 23 years from 1985 through 2008 at the law firm of Richards Layton & Finger prior to his appointment to the Superior Court.

Judge Parkins received his bachelor's degree from the University of Delaware and his law degree with honors from Washington & Lee University. He also proudly served his country in the U.S. Army.

Judge Parkins once modestly remarked that his legal career was more being fortunate and also good deal of luck over merit. He was always appreciative and at times humbled by the lifetime of peers, mentors, friends and family who contributed, as he stated during his investiture, *"for my entire lifetime I have considered myself, to be the luckiest man on the face of the earth"*.

Judge Parkins retired from Superior Court on April 1, 2019. He passed away on May 24, 2019 at the age of 72. He was a person of the highest integrity, intelligence, always pragmatic and a pretty good sense of humor. His Superior Court family will greatly miss all the qualities he brought to our court not only as a consummate jurist but also as the truly dear and compassionate friend we all admired.

We will miss his trademark phrase – always delivered with a twinkle in his eye and a grin on his face - *"take the rest of the day off."*