



Judge William J. Skow

May 20, 1941 - June 21, 2009

Judge William J. Skow, 68 years, of West Toledo passed away of severe pancreatitis early Sunday , June 21, 2009 at Toledo Hospital.

Born in Toledo, May 20, 1941 to John and Lucile (Alexander) Skow he took his interest in politics and ran with it like the athletes he admired as a child. He attended Harvard University and majored in American Government. After graduating from one of the country's most prestigious institutions in 1963, Judge Skow began studying for his J.D. at, "one of the better law schools in the country, then or now," the University of Michigan. According to the Judge, "Attending U of M's law school was a good decision. I've always liked Ann Arbor and I was ready to come back to the Midwest."

The Judge was awarded the Bronze Star and discharged in 1969 after 22 months in the Army serving a year in Vietnam.

During America's Bicentennial, Judge Skow got involved in the re-election campaign of 9th District US Congressman Thomas "Lud" Ludlow Ashley. After the win, Ashley's chief legislative assistant was given a position in President Carter's administration and the Congressman asked Skow to fill the now empty seat.

Upon his second return to Toledo, the Judge resumed his private practice

work for a couple of years until Governor Celeste appointed him to a seat on the Toledo Municipal Court Bench. After three years he was again appointed to a bench position by Governor Celeste, this time in the Common Pleas Court. He would remain a judge there for 19 years.

The Judge has also been very involved for years in the Junior Bar Association's annual Gridiron Show. His dedication to young Toledo lawyers has earned him both the Order of the Sole and the Order of the Heel.

After nearly 20 grinding years in Common Pleas Court, Judge Skow was endorsed and won the race, for Appeals Court in 2004 where remained until his death.

A number of his opinions have been published and received commentary both locally and nationally.

What the Judge really enjoyed were the people he worked with. "I've been very lucky in terms of the support staff I've had working for me. My bailiffs and court reporters too have always been top notch. My staff attorneys here are of the highest caliber. Also, I've found that both judges and lawyers in Toledo to be a pretty interesting class of individuals, interested in things well beyond the practice of law." He was loved for his humor and quick wit.

He belonged to several organizations that promote Human Rights and Civil Rights.

Surviving are his wife of 30 years, Felicia Skow, daughters, Sarah Skow and Sasha (Bobby) Skow-Lindsey along with brothers, Jack (Olga) Skow and Jim (Kristi) Skow.

The family is deeply grateful for the wonderful care given by the entire staff at Toledo Hospital's Medical Intensive Care Unit.

Friends may call at the Coyle Funeral Home 1770 So. Reynolds Road Wednesday beginning at 2 p.m. where services will begin at 7 p.m. Interment will be private. Memorials may take the form of a contribution to the Southern Poverty Law Center, 400 Washington Ave., Montgomery, AL 36104, the Toledo Chapter of the American Red Cross or WGTE Public Radio, Toledo.

Tribute Wall



“ Sarah and Family

I am truly sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family in this difficult time.##imported-begin##Melissa Clarkson clarkson@cooperwalinski.com##imported-end##

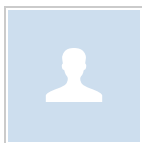
June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Sarah,

I'm so so sorry to hear of your father's passing. My thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family at this difficult time.##imported-begin##Jody Baker baker@cooperwalinski.com##imported-end##

June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Both my wife and me, want to extend to you and your family our thoughts and prayers... Bill has been a great mentor, that no one can measure..., even though I was a Republican.

*Daryl & Jolene Yourist
Leo's Book Shop##imported-begin##Daryl & Jolene Yourist dyourist@a-text.com##imported-end##*

June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ I am a member of the Wood County Democratic Party Central Committee. I campaigned for Judge Skow in 2008. At one event in my home town of North Baltimore, I wore one of his T-shirts while in a dunk tank. I really liked Judge Skow. We will all miss him.
Sincerely,
Jeff and Barb Bretz###imported-begin##Jeff & Barb Bretz jpbretz@verizon.net###imported-end##

June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Sara and family, I just heard from my dad. My thoughts and prayers are with you! I always looked forward to Judge Skow coming to our games! He always thought every pitch I threw was a strike and made sure the umpires knew that as well, even if he got tossed from the game! Judge Skow was a great man who was loved by many and will be missed by many!###imported-begin##Amy McClellan###imported-end##

June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Felicia & Family,

Bill was perhaps the brightest person I ever met. Yet, he was able to blend the theoretical and practical in a compassionate way.

He also had a great wit. I fondly remember his gracious introduction at my swearing in as bar president. He easily could have been a standup comedian.

He will be missed but not forgotten. God bless you all.

Marty###imported-begin###Marty & Terri Mohler mmohler@snhslaw.com###imported-end###

June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ I am very sorry for your loss. Judge Skow was a mentor and a friend to me and I will never forget him. He always went out of his way to help guide me when I needed advice and always made time if I needed something. His funny stories and witty sense of humor will be missed. I will truly miss him.###imported-begin###Laura Berling lcb erling@bex.net###imported-end###

June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Sarah and the Skow Family,
Judge Skow was such a wonderful person and he will be sorely missed. I am so sorry that I cannot physically be there for you and your family, but please know you are in my thoughts and I am here if you need me.###imported-begin###Adrienne Anderson rennie1108@yahoo.com###imported-end###

June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ I am so sorry for your loss, and for our loss too. What a great man and kind person. I never met anyone else with his unique combination of intellect and wit. I know you will treasure all your wonderful memories. We are all better for having known him, and our community is a better place for the years he spent as a judge, although too few.##imported-begin##Patty Wise wise@cooperwalinski.com##imported-end##

June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Felicia and family,

Our most sincere condolences. The world is a poorer place without the wonderful human being that Bill was. We shared many laughs and debates.He was an unusually classy man and we'll miss him. You have all our thoughts and prayers.##imported-begin##Mickey & Suzie Rosenberg##imported-end##

June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Judge Skow was intuitive, fair, clear and bright. He saved me and my family. I am grateful to him and all he stands for. He is an angel. Was then and is now.##imported-begin##Annie Kontak##imported-end##

June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ My deepest sympathy to all of you in the loss of a beloved husband and father. Judge Skow will be forever remembered in the manner in which he fairly achieved justice while at the same time being able to create his own unique "sidebar." Treasure the many memories.##imported-begin##Renisa Dorner dorner@cooperwalinski.com##imported-end##

June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Judge Skow will be greatly missed by all of his fellow Court of Appeals judges. I sat with him at several judges association meetings and always enjoyed his company. Our thoughts and prayers will be with the family at this sad time.##imported-begin##Judge Bill Young##imported-end##

June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ You are in my prayers and thoughts Sasha. Julie##imported-begin##Julie McCaffrey##imported-end##

June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Aunt Felica, Sarah & Sasha, My heart hurts for you all at this very sad time. May you find strength and peace at this difficult time. With love and prayers to you all Bonnie & Tim Williams##imported-begin##Bonnie Williams##imported-end##

June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Bill Skow was a great guy, from our high school days and on through his terrific caring legal career. I am so sorry to learn of his death and I wish to extend my deepest sympathy to you and your daughters. We all really loved his wry sense of humor. I lost my husband May 2008. Bill and Neal had similar interests in the law and in helping those lesser fortunate. Neal was an attorney for legal aid societies in North Carolina and Ohio. Bill will be sorely missed as a leader at the Bar. I enjoyed talking with you at the last reunion while we toured on the Maumee River. We talked about Bill's judicial race and the deplorable situation the country was in even then. Sincerely yours, Stephanie Manly.##imported-begin##Stephanie Ames Manly cametsam@aol.com##imported-end##

June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Bill was a good friend, and a brilliant student that inspired me many times.

On the basketball court, the football field, the race track, and the billard hall he was always one step ahead of all.

He will always be remembered.

God Bless

Joe Holtzman##imported-begin##F. K. (Joe) Holtzman joeholtzman@cox.net##imported-end##

June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ I knew Bill years ago as a fellow camp staffer at Camp Miakonda. He was a fun guy then and I'm sure he was now as well. I live now in Minneapolis. My sympathies to his wife and children.##imported-begin##Tom Bollin tbollin@comcast.net##imported-end##

June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ It was an honor to help care for Judge Skow during his hospitalization. Felicia and family you showed great love, devotion and courage for this man you all love so much. Never doubt how much that meant to him, for he knew you were there for him, always were in this life and always will be.##imported-begin##Christine Haggerty##imported-end##

June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Although it`s difficult today to see beyond the sorrow, may looking back in memory help comfort you tomorrow.##imported-begin##Rockys Body Shop rockys@totalink.net##imported-end##

June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Felicia, Sarah and Sasha,
My deepest sympathy on your loss. It is a very difficult time for you but I pray that your many good memories will help you through the grieving . Sarah and Sasha I know your dad will live on in you. You both were a tribute to your parents when you were young girls. I have fond memories of when you were in my class at Old Orchard. You will all be in my thoughts and prayers.##imported-begin##Mary Prior Egan mcegan@buckeye-express.com##imported-end##

June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dear Sarah and Family:*
Please accept my deepest sympathy. Judge Skow will be sorely missed by all who knew him. It was a privilege (and an education!) to appear before him professionally; and a joy to interact with him personally through several years of the Gridiron Show. You are all in my thoughts.
Bonnie R. Rankin###imported-begin###Bonnie R. Rankin b-rankin@sbcglobal.net###imported-end##

June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Sasha & Family,*

I am so sorry to hear about your dad passing. You are in my thoughts and prayers and if there is anything I can do for you please let me know.

Love,
Jada Binkowski###imported-begin###Jada Binkowski###imported-end##

June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Felicia,
Sue and I join in extending our sympathies to you, your daughters and entire family. We are Felicia Sarah, Sasha and all the family we are, so sorry for the loss of your husband, father, and friend to so many. Though we did not spend much time we knew each other for a long time and had so many friends in common.
Bill touched my life and the lives of other family members and we will all have fond memories.
Joel & Sue##imported-begin##Joel & Sue Zanville exmoor27@aol.com##imported-end##

June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Sarah and Family,

I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you.##imported-begin##Judy Patsy##imported-end##

June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Felicia and family,
I am sorry that I am unable to attend today to express my thoughts to each of you in person. I send my prayers and condolences. The wonderful Judge Bill Skow will be sorely missed by so many. However, he is in the arms of Our Dear Lord and "arguing issues!!" May each of you be comforted by all his wonderful memories and legendary writings.
God Bless,
Very sincerely, Mary Sue Barone##imported-begin##Mary Sue Barone wcdefender@sbcglobal.net##imported-end##

June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *My condolences to the family.*

Judge Skow was a pleasure to appear before. He had that rare blend of humor, intelligence and common sense. My fondest memories include 1980s era gridiron shows and the museum-like atmosphere of his chambers (courtroom #1).

We'll all miss him##imported-begin##Mike Bruno mikebruno57@hotmail.com##imported-end##

June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Sasha & Family,*

We are thinking of you all and hoping you will find comfort in the special memories you have of your father. Our thoughts and prayers are with you today and always!

Love,

Tony & Kelly##imported-begin##Tony & Kelly Santiago##imported-end##

June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *I always smile when I think of Bill. I interned In Rep. Ashley's office and also the CBO in the summers of 1978 and 1979 thanks to Bill's support. Felicia & Bill graciously hosted me once in DC when I came to interview for jobs. I feel lucky to have had a chance to know him and will continue to smile whenever I think of him.##imported-begin##Ceri James Paul##imported-end##*

June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ We, (the employees) at Tony Packos Cafe will dearly miss this wonderful man.##imported-begin##Tony Packos Cafe Employees##imported-end##

June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ We, (the employees) at Tony Packos Cafe will dearly miss this wonderful man.##imported-begin##Tony Packos Cafe Employees##imported-end##

June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Mr. Skow was my lawyer, back when he had his private practice. He did a great job (winning my case in the late 1960's) and I was glad to see that he was a judge. I live in Fostoria and I want to say I am very sorry about his passing. Donald Lindhorst##imported-begin##DONALD LINDHORST dlind98@usa.com##imported-end##

June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Felicia, Sarah, and Sasha,

We have known, admired, and enjoyed your husband and father for many years and are deeply saddened that Judge Skow, a man who has given our community so much both personally and professionally, is no longer with us.

Judge Skow was an exceptional person and one of the brightest and most talented in our legal community. His memory and all of his numerous accomplishments will live on in the many people's lives he has touched.

We share your loss and send you our heartfelt condolences at this difficult time. Our prayers are with you.##imported-begin##Tracy & Debby Sniderhan tsniderhan@hotmail.com##imported-end##

June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ I knew Bill when we were both students at Ottawa Hills High School. My parents lived in a house directly across Darlington Road from the Skow’s home for three years from 1955 to 1958. Back then I knew both Bill and his brother, Jim.

Bill and I spent many hours playing one on one basketball in both of our backyards. I remember Jim playing Bill Haley songs on his sax. I remember seeing Jack Skow’s paintings hanging on the wall in the basement recreation room. They were signed “Scuttlebutt Skow”.

Before I turned 16, and could drive, I pestered both Bill and Jim to let me double date with them. They used to turn around and walk the other way whenever they saw me coming down the school hall.

I am very sorry to hear about Bill’s death; I wish I had made an effort to get reacquainted with him after I moved to Perrysburg in 1970.##imported-begin##Jack Snyder jack.snyder@buckeye-express.com##imported-end##

June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM