



# Judge Mack Elwin Barham

JUN 18, 1924 - NOV 27, 2006



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# Judge Mack Elwin Barham

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**J**ustice Mack Elwin Barham on Monday November 27, 2006 at St. Tammany Parish Hospital following a long illness.

Barham is survived by his wife, Ann; his son, Lake Charles lawyer Bret Barham; his daughter, Megan Richardson of Covington; a sister, Ertie Mae Bowdon of Birmingham, AL, six grandchildren and one great-grandchild. His parents were late Henry A. and Lockie H. Barham of Bastrop, who owned Barham's Dairy. Barham, age 82, a Bastrop native, had relocated to Covington after Hurricane Katrina floodwaters destroyed his Lakewood home located near the 17th Street Canal in New Orleans.

After attending the University of Colorado, he entered LSU Law Center and was admitted to the Bar in 1946. Two years later, at the age of 24, he was elected city judge of Bastrop serving for 14 years. In 1962, he was elected to the 4th Judicial District Court bench. He served on the state Supreme Court from 1968 to 1975.

When Barham joined the state Supreme Court, he and late Judge Al Tate formed a coalition that led to a 4-3 majority of younger judges who began implementing U.S. Supreme Court civil rights decisions.

After leaving the court, Barham went into the private practice of law in New Orleans, specializing in an appellate practice, administrative law, expropriation, environmental law and commercial litigation.

"Mack Barham set the bar for integrity, ability and intellectual capability on the state Supreme court," Robert Barham said. "He was always a gentleman and an inspiration to anyone connected with the legal profession."

Barham was a member of the Order of the Coif, Omicron Delta Kappa, Blue Key, Phi Alpha Delta, Phi Delta Phi, and authored numerous legal scholarly articles. He also taught at Tulane Law School.

Friends may join the family for a time of visitation on Wednesday, November 29,



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2006 from 3:00 – 5:00 PM at the Lakelawn Metairie Funeral Home, 5100 Pontchartrain Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70179. In lieu of flowers, LSU Foundation c/o LSU Law Center, Mack Barham Fund, Suite 400 Alumni Office, Baton Rouge, LA 70803. Sign guestbook online [www.ejfieldingfh.com](http://www.ejfieldingfh.com).



## Tribute Wall

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HS

**Helen Jeanne Smith** posted:

So many memories of times long ago. Please accept my condolences.

December 3 at 7:00 PM

JL

**Judy Leftoff** posted:

Thinking of you during this difficult time and remembering wonderful childhood memories of days spent with your family.

November 30 at 7:00 PM

RM

**Ruthie Mullins** posted:

My condolences to the Barham family. Judge Barham was a man of great integrity and true compassion which is often lacking in today's society. I called him at his office 12 years ago when I was living in Mandeville and he was able to steer me in the right direction in order to help a friend of mind who so desperately needed it at the time. Her elderly and very ill, father's life depended on it and thanks to Judge Barham's intervention she was able to help her father get the help he needed immediately. I will never forget his kindness. He invited me to his home at that time as I told him I was originally from Bastrop and went to BHS with Megan and my daughter is named Megan (after her). I moved before I had the opportunity to visit. God bless you and be with you at this time of grief.

November 28 at 7:00 PM

NC

**Nadine Shannon Coleman** posted:

Ms. Ann, Megan and Brett: Mom called me today to let me know of Judge Barham's death. I was so sorry to learn of your loss, his lengthy illness and of the loss of your home after the storm. Please know I think of you often and have such wonderful memories of time spent with your family. David and I are thinking of you. With our love, Nadine

November 28 at 7:00 PM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Judge by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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