

MEMORIAL
GEORGE G. FAGG

George Gardner Fagg was born in Eldora, Iowa, on April 30, 1934, to Ned and Arleene Fagg. His family owned and operated a dairy. It was there that he learned to get an early start to the day. While on the bench, he regularly arrived at his office at 4 a.m.

George Fagg was the starting center on his high school football team and played varsity baseball. He had a lifelong love of sports. He earned a degree in business from Drake University and his law degree from Drake University Law School, graduating first in his class both times. He served as editor of the *Drake Law Review* and was admitted to the Order of the Coif.

He worked as a trial lawyer in the Cartwright firm in Marshalltown from 1958 to 1972. In 1972 he was appointed as an Iowa District Judge for the Second Judicial District. He served on that court for 10 years. He quickly earned a reputation among his colleagues for carrying more than his fair share of the workload. The judges who followed Judge Fagg in the trial assignment rotation found that he always left things in good order. During his time as Iowa District Judge, he chaired the Iowa Committee on Uniform Jury Instructions, served as a member of the Advisory Committee on the Rules of Civil Procedure, and was a faculty member of the National Judicial College.

In 1982 President Ronald Reagan appointed Judge Fagg to the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. Judge Fagg consistently produced the most opinions on the court and authored more per curiam opinions than signed ones. His colleagues saw that as an indication of his personal modesty and of his respect for a collegial team approach to the court's work. Judge Fagg assumed senior status on May 1, 1999, but voluntarily continued to carry the caseload of an active judge for more than five years after that.

Judge Fagg had a sense of humor but generally displayed it only in private. His sense of humor could cause serious shock for an unsuspecting young lawyer.

George Fagg was married to Jane Wood of Eldora on August 19, 1956, shortly after receiving his bachelor's degree from Drake. They had six children: Martha, Tom, Ned, Susan, George, and Sarah, and 12 grandchildren. Jane died in 2006.

Judge Fagg was genuinely modest. He also worked at being succinct. His accomplishments speak for themselves. Respect for his appreciation of brevity requires that this memorial conclude here. George Fagg died on July 14, 2015, at his home in Johnson, Iowa.

Mr. President, I move that this memorial be spread upon the records of this association and a copy sent to his family.