



Bruce W. Kauffman

Born: December 1, 1934, in Atlantic City, New Jersey
Died: November 29, 2021, in Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania

Federal Judicial Service:

Judge, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania
Nominated by William J. Clinton on July 31, 1997, to a seat vacated by James McGirr Kelly.
Confirmed by the Senate on November 8, 1997, and received commission on November 12, 1997. Assumed senior status on February 11, 2008.
Service terminated on July 20, 2009, due to retirement.

Education:

University of Pennsylvania, B.A., 1956
Yale Law School, LL.B., 1959

Professional Career:

Law Clerk, Hon. Vincent S. Haneman, Superior Court of New Jersey: 1959-1960
Private Practice, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: 1960-1980; 1982-1997; 2009-2021
Justice, Supreme Court of Pennsylvania: 1980-1982
Professor, University of Pennsylvania Law School: 1995-1997

Oral History:

Kauffman, Bruce W. "The Honorable Bruce W. Kauffman." Interview conducted by Mary Stokes on March 26, 2003. University of Pennsylvania Law School, Biddle Law Library, Philadelphia, Pa., 2003. Transcript.

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Judicial Biography

Judge Kauffman was a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, and graduate of Yale Law School, Order of the Coif.

Judge Kauffman served as a Justice of the Supreme Court of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania from 1980 to 1982.

He also served as an Adjunct Professor of Law at the University of Pennsylvania Law School, Chairman of the Board of a bank, and Chairman of the Pennsylvania Judicial Inquiry and Review Board. He was a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers and International Academy of Trial Lawyers; President of the Philadelphia Bar Foundation; Life Member of the American Law Institute; Member of the Board of the University of the Arts in Philadelphia; Member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association Judicial Selection Reform Committee and House of Delegates; Chairman of the Mayor's Task Force on Minority Employment in the Philadelphia Police Department; Member of the Philadelphia Special Investigation Commission (MOVE Commission); Delegate to the Pennsylvania Constitutional Convention and Co-Chairman of the Subcommittee on Selection of Judges; Member of the Advisory Committee to the United States Commission on Civil Rights; Chairman of the Lower Merion Township Civil Service Commission and Montgomery County Government Study Commission; Life Member of the Navy League of the United States; President of the Merion Park Civic Association; Member of the Pennsylvania Society and Fellow of the Phi Beta Kappa Society; Past Vice President of the Yale Law School Association; and Past President of the Yale Law School Association of the Philadelphia Area.

He received the Philadelphia Bar Association's Justice for All CLS Champion Award; the Judge Learned Hand Human Relations Award; Shomrin Service Award; the Torch of Learning Award from the American Friends of the Hebrew University and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith; and the Tree of Life Award for the Jewish National Fund. He served as a Member of the Federal Judges Association, the Lawyers Club, the Pennsylvania and Philadelphia Bar Associations and the New Jersey Bar Association. His scholarly articles have been published in the Villanova Law Review, the Delaware Journal of Corporate Law and the Temple Law Quarterly.

He retired from the Court on July 20, 2009 to return to the private practice of law where his practice included representation of major corporations, boards of directors, fiduciaries, entrepreneurs and individuals, in commercial disputes, internal and governmental investigations, anti-trust, unfair competition, business torts and federal claims.

He died on November 29, 2021 in Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania, at the age of 86.