



Thomas A. Masterson

Born: December 10, 1927, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Died: June 15, 2000, in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania

Federal Judicial Service:

Judge, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania

Nominated by Lyndon B. Johnson on January 16, 1967, to a new seat authorized by 80 Stat. 75.

Confirmed by the Senate on June 12, 1967, and received commission on June 15, 1967.

Service terminated on November 16, 1973, due to resignation.

Education:

Harvard University, B.A., 1949

University of Pennsylvania Law School (now Carey Law School), LL.B., 1952

Professional Career:

Attorney, U.S. Department of Justice: 1952-1953

Volunteer Defender, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: 1953

Private Practice, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: 1953-1956, 1960-1967, 1973-2000

Instructor, Seton Hall University School of Law: 1953-1956

Assistant District Attorney, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: 1956

Deputy City Solicitor, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: 1956-1960

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Judicial Biography

*President Lyndon B. Johnson in 1967 appointed Thomas A. Masterson to the Court.

Masterson, age thirty-nine, had an undergraduate degree from Harvard and a law degree from the University of Pennsylvania. He practiced law with Morgan, Lewis & Bockius, and had ties with the Democratic organization in Philadelphia. After only a few years on the Court, he resigned to return to his former law firm in order to be able to support his large family.

Judge Masterson served only six years on the Court, and resigned from the Court in 1973. He returned to his former firm, Morgan, Lewis & Bockius.

At the time of his resignation, he indicated he was resigning in protest over Congressional failure to institute judicial pay raises recommended by an independent commission. He testified before Congress on the issue of fair pay for judges several times after he left the bench.

He was involved in civic affairs, having been appointed to the City's school board, Human Relations Commission and the board of Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

He passed away on June 15, 2000 in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, at the age of 72.

* The following material is excerpted from JUDGE HARVEY BARTLE, III, MORTALS WITH TREMENDOUS RESPONSIBILITIES, A HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA, 3-12 (Saint Joseph's University Press, 2011). Reproduced with the permission of the author, Judge Harvey Bartle, III, and the publisher, Saint Joseph's University Press.