

## IN MEMORIAM: JUDGE RAYMOND ZIMMET

Raymond (Ray) Zimmet, a long-serving Administrative Law Judge at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, passed away on February 27, 2020, at Casey House in Rockville, Maryland. He was eighty-three.

Born in Brooklyn, New York, Ray moved to Washington, D.C. with his family in the early 1940s after his father accepted a position as a lawyer with the United States Maritime Commission. Ray graduated from Coolidge High School and then the University of Maryland. Ray received his L.L.B. in 1961 from the University of Virginia School of Law, where he was a member of the Virginia Law Review and the Order of the Coif.

After serving on active duty in the U.S. Army, Ray started his career in private practice in Washington, D.C. in 1962. In 1965, he moved to the Interstate Commerce Commission, where his primary work involved defending the agency in court. He loved his work from that period – “arguing cases” he called it – and he became an expert in the fields of economic regulation and administrative law. In 1973, he moved to the then-Atomic Energy Commission, where he ultimately served as the Acting Solicitor before his appointment as an Administrative Law Judge at the then-Federal Power Commission in 1975.

For thirty years, Ray served as a fiercely independent member of the FERC bench, and brought his formidable analytical skills and wry sense of humor to bear on a wide range of cases. Ray had a rigorous and unwavering focus on clear writing and careful analysis, and held himself to a high standard as he performed the work of untangling and resolving the legal issues presented to him. Although Ray tried to avoid taking himself too seriously, he was utterly serious about the obligation to “get it right,” and to produce well-reasoned decisions that would stand up to both Commission and appellate scrutiny. Ray also sought to mentor the many law clerks who passed through his office, and took great pride in their accomplishments as they moved on to positions of prominence in the Energy Bar, as well as other, non-energy-related endeavors.

Apart from the law, Ray was a loving husband, father, and grandfather, and a devotee of Stephen Sondheim musicals, the Brooklyn Dodgers, and, in his later years, the Washington Nationals. Ray will be deeply missed for his humanity, his wisdom and ability, and his wit.