

IN MEMORIAM

Judge David I. Harfeld, of Chevy Chase, MD, passed away on May 7th from complications arising from adrenal cancer. Judge Harfeld served on the bench at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (“FERC”) for 27 years. He is survived by his wife Doris, and his daughters Jennifer Harfeld, of Chicago, and Amy Harfeld, of New York City.

In addition to his family and many friends, his service was attended by his fellow Administrative Law Judges, senior personnel at FERC, including Commissioner Suedeen Kelly, and many practitioners of the energy bar, including a number of his former law clerks. His service celebrated and honored his unmitigated enthusiasm for life, his family, and his friends, and his joyous and irrepressible eccentricity.

Born in Richmond, VA in 1935 to Beatrice and Harry Harfeld, he grew up in Richmond and Baltimore, MD. Graduating from high school at age 15, he got his BA from the University of Richmond, and then obtained his JD from the University of Michigan Law School. He worked at the Interstate Commerce Commission (“ICC”) in Washington DC, and married his beloved wife Doris while working at the ICC. From there, he became a partner at a transportation law firm in Chicago, IL. He moved with his family to Chevy Chase, MD in 1979 when he was appointed to the bench. He served as president of the American Bar Association's Conference of Administrative Law Judges for many years, and was an active member of the bar until his death. He was also a member of the Freemasons Lodge in Richmond, VA.

In addition to serving as a Federal Administrative Law Judge for 27 years, he was a life-long enthusiast of Broadway musical theatre. He acquired one of the most extensive collections of original cast Broadway recordings in the country. He hosted a program on NPR across the country entitled "Curtain Up!". The show focused on topics ranging from stars of the silver screen on Broadway to Broadway flops, to opera singers on Broadway. It was broadcast by dozens of public radio stations around the country. He also loved cruising, and traveled the world several times over on all of the major cruise lines. Above all else, however, he was a loving, dedicated, and involved husband and father, and an interesting, loyal, and enthusiastic friend. He brightened any room he entered; uplifted any spirit he encountered; and believed that no occasion—not even an administrative hearing—was too somber to be fun. He will be sorely missed.