

A TRIBUTE TO JUSTICE MACK KIDD



Justice Mack Kidd, 1941-2005

The Honorable Mack Kidd of the Texas Third Court of Appeals passed away unexpectedly on Monday, January 3rd, 2005, at the age of 63. Justice Kidd will forever be remembered by the State of Texas, the Bar, and the Administrative Law community as an eminent jurist, an incomparable trial attorney, an advocate for the mentally challenged, and a passionate champion of justice for all. Justice Kidd is survived by his wife Charlotte, and his three children, Amy Nason, Russell Roby, and Kevin Kidd.

Justice Kidd began his successful law career with Cofer, Cofer, and Hearne, followed by Garey, Colbert, and Kidd. He next was associated with Kidd, Doggett, and Jacks. Before joining the court, he founded the firm then known as Kidd, Whitehurst, Harkness, and Watson. In 1990, Justice Kidd was elected to the Third Court of Appeals in Austin, where he served for the last fourteen years and was never opposed for reelection. He served as President of the Texas Trial Lawyers Association, as President of the Association of Retarded Citizens of Austin, as a Texas Bar Foundation Fellow, and as a frequent continuing legal education lecturer.

Justice Kidd was involved with the practice of administrative law in Texas very early in his career. In fact, he represented injured workers under the regulations created by the Industrial Accident Board. As an Associate Justice on the Third Court of Appeals, Justice Kidd was a leader in the development of Texas Administrative Law. He was respectful of the positions of Texas agencies, but he did not consider the courts to be bound by them. He became known for approaching each case on the merits of the arguments

presented by each side. In addition, Justice Kidd worked faithfully, enthusiastically, and resourcefully to educate judges, attorneys, and law students on the subject of administrative law during his tenure on the Governing Council of the State Bar's Administrative and Public Law section.

Justice Kidd will be remembered as an incredible mentor for young lawyers, both on and off the court. Many of his partners developed into eminent leaders in their own right, including a congressman, a Texas Supreme Court justice, a mayor, a president of the State Bar, and two presidents of the Texas Trial Lawyers Association.

As one of the many beneficiaries of his seemingly endless dedication and guidance, we, the Editorial Board of Volume 6 of the Texas Tech Journal of Texas Administrative Law, and on behalf of the entire Administrative and Public Law Section of the State Bar, wish to express our deepest condolences to the Kidd family and to the Third Court of Appeals, and thank them for sharing Justice Kidd with us.