

The Honorable Clifton White Everett, Jr.

GREENVILLE The Honorable Clifton White Everett, Jr., 70, died Tuesday, July 16, 2013 at Vidant Inpatient Hospice in Greenville.

The funeral service will be conducted Friday at 11 a.m. at Jarvis Memorial United Methodist Church. Burial with Masonic Rites will follow in Greenwood Cemetery.

Judge Everett was born on October 4, 1942 in Tarboro to Clifton White Everett, Sr. and Marjorie Whitehurst Everett.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Harris Everett of Greenville; his son, William Lawrence Everett of Anchorage, AK; his daughter, Alice Everett Gryler and husband, Chad, of Boone; his grandchildren, Everett and Mary Eccles Gryler; his sisters, Janet Everett Davis and husband, Stuart, of Bethel, and Amy Everett Constantino and husband, Costa, of Richmond, Va.; brother-in-law, Clyde P. Harris, Jr. of Wilson. His seven sisters and nephews, along with his many cousins, always enjoyed his stories and deep knowledge of family history. He loved to share his understanding of family ties and connections with relatives and his many friends throughout the state. The family will always be grateful for the compassionate care and attention given him by Christopher English of Bethel these last five years in times of need.

He grew up in Bethel, graduating from Bethel High School as Salutatorian of his class. In June of 1967, he earned his Juris Doctor Degree from Wake Forest School of Law, having graduated from Wake Forest University in History and Political Science. He served as the first research assistant to The Honorable Naomi E. Morris, Associate Judge and later Chief Judge of the North Carolina Court of Appeals. In 1968, he returned to Greenville, where he and his father formed a partnership for the general practice of law with offices in Greenville and Bethel.

Judge Everett has been active in Greenville and North Carolina in civic, political and legal circles as well as his church. As a member of Jarvis Memorial United Methodist Church, he served on the Administrative Board and was secretary to the Board of Trustees. He is a former member of the Greenville Elks Lodge, the Greenville Rotary Club, served as a member of the Board of the Pitt County Mental Health Association, and as a Division Chairman of the Pitt County United Way. He was appointed to the Pitt County Board of Elections in 1977, serving as chairman from 1977 through 1985. Governor Jim Hunt appointed him to the North Carolina Historical Commission in 1982, and he was a member for five years. An avid golfer for 50 years, he enjoyed the game at

the Greenville Golf and Country Club until his illness led him to stop playing five years ago. He continued to follow and enjoy the game through his friends.

He was an active member of the Masonic fraternity. Everett was a Past Master of Crown Point Lodge No. 708 in Greenville and an honorary member of many lodges across the state. He served as Grand Master of Masons in North Carolina in 1995, and afterwards as Grand Treasurer until stepping down two years ago. He was a member of the Greenville York Rite, Sudan Shrine, and a Thirty-Third Degree member of the New Bern Scottish Rite.

Everett, as a member of the Pitt County Bar Association, served as secretary and President, was President of the 3A Judicial District Bar, and was a member of the North Carolina Bar Association, the North Carolina State Bar and the American Bar Association.

After practicing general law for 28 years with the firm of Everett, Everett, Warren and Harper, now Everett and Hite, he last as a candidate to succeed Judge David E. Ritt as Superior Court Judge. On December 16, 1994, he took the oath of office as Resident Superior Court Judge of the 3A Judicial District which comprises Pitt County. In his 18 years of service, he presided over both the criminal and civil courts as far east as Dare County to Watauga and Caldwell Counties in the west. As a member of the Conference of North Carolina Superior Court Judges, he attended meetings held each year where he developed close friendships with the judges across the state. He retired in December, 2012. After five days of retirement, he was appointed by Governor Beverly Perdue as an Emergency Superior Court Judge and sworn in by Superior Court Judge Marvin Blount III. Judge Everett was presented with the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, a certificate presented to outstanding North Carolinians who have a proven record of service to the state. During his years of service, the Pitt County Courthouse symbolized his passion for the law, and his wish always was to preserve the memories of lawyers and judges who were such a big influence in the life of the legal community.

The family will receive friends Thursday from 5 to 7 p.m. at Wilkerson Funeral Home. Memorial contributions may be made to Jarvis Memorial United Methodist Church, 510 South Washington St., Greenville, NC 27834; Pitt County Historical Society, Box 1554, Greenville, NC 27833; or the charity of one's choice.

Online condolences at www.wilkersonfuneralhome.com

