

Judge Don T. Adams

DON T. ADAMS (TISHERMAN)

Judicial Positions held and terms (most recent first): Circuit Judge (1982-1989), County Judge (1972-1982)

If appointed, by whom and when? Gov. Reuben Askew, 1972 (County); Gov. Bob Martinez, 1987 (Circuit) – served 5 years previous as temporary one year appointments.

If elected, when? Unopposed

Bar positions or other offices held? Unknown

Legal Experience: Assistant State Attorney; Jones, Adams, Paine & Foster- 1963-1965; Private Practice, Pahokee 1965-1972, County Judge 1972, Circuit Judge 1982-1989- Glades Office building at the West Count Courthouse Annex.

Other work experience: Washington D.C. Department of Roads and Highways, Civil Engineer 1958-1963, U.S. Army Corp of Engineers 1957-1959, U.S. Army Reserves Retired Colonel 1987- 3220th US Army Garrison, West Palm, FL.

Education: Pahokee High School, 1953 (Sr. Class President); University of Florida 1957 (Bachelors- Civil Engineering); Sigma Chi Fraternity; George Washington University College of Law 1963; War College, Carlisle, PA 1979.

Publications: Unknown

Notable decisions, cases: Advocate for equal justice system and expansion of services in Glades 1977, Legislature created separate Glades District allowing Jury Trials.

Family members, history: Father- Willie T, Adams; Mother- Margaret Luree Adams, Wife- Frances Wilson Adams, Daughter- Donia A. Roberts (Attorney, Palm Beach Count), Beth A, Horner (Attorney, St. Petersburg, FL), Angee A. Lohmann (Educator), Jayna A. Smith (Pre-K Special Needs Educator)

Memorable influences or life experiences: The often quoted phrase we heard so frequently from Daddy Don, "Into every life a little rain must fall" (from Longfellow), remains a precious memory that continually influences and sustains our family. The Don T. Adams translation meant, "Stop complaining, and get up and go on down the road." Don's comparatively short life impacted most everything and everyone he touched. People still offer comforting and encouraging stories of how he made a difference in their lives and in

their community. Maybe the most significant impact he made was to his family in preparing us to become strong, independent, and self-sufficient. We were introduced to the work ethic at an early age and were continually challenged to give our best to every task. So even though we felt deluged by his death, we knew exactly what was expected of us and have managed to “go on down the road” remembering that “a little rain must fall,” yet confident that often times a rainbow will follow the rain and leave a silver lining in a cloud.

Community Service: Masters of Ceremonies, Rotarian, Shriners, Elks, Member- Canal Point Methodist Church

Hobbies: Traveling the world, camping, reading! Going to the woods- hunting and fishing with friends and spending time with family and always GATOR football!

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