

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**February 25, 2021**

**Superior Court Mourns Passing of retired Judge Robert B. Young**

The Superior Court of the State of Delaware expresses condolences to family, friends and co-workers of retired Superior Court Judge Robert B. Young who passed away on February 24, 2021.

“Judge Young was a great colleague, a cherished friend and a wonderful human being. He loved the Superior Court, he loved his Superior Court family, and he loved helping others,” said Superior Court President Judge Jan R. Jurden.

Judge Young, 77, was appointed to the bench in February 2005 as a Superior Court Judge for Kent County by Gov. Ruth Ann Minner and retired from full-time service in March 2017, though he returned to assist the court periodically by special designation.

In addition to his distinguished work on the bench, where he headed the Kent County Mental Health Court, Judge Young was well known for his work outside of court, particularly his comedic song-writing abilities. He is the author of *The Trial of Elinor Ruttee*, a musical celebrating 300 years of Court on *The Green in Dover*; *Macbeth—A Family Musical*; *A Tale of Two Cities—The Rock Opera*; *Moby Dick—A Maritime Musicale*; *An American Tragedy—A Comedy*; *Madame Bovary—Ho, Ho, Ho*; and *The Crucible—Plymouth Rocks*; *The Public Enemy: Runnin’ Wild*, and *The Tennessee Waltz*. Nearly all performances involved members of the Delaware State Bar Association and proceeds of the shows were donated to charity, particularly the Combined Campaign for Justice that provides legal assistance to the indigent.

“He had a rare combination of historical knowledge of musical theater and an ear for everything interesting before 1975 and a stubborn tenacity to have things done the way he wanted them done,” said Family Court Judge James McGiffin, who frequently performed with Judge Young. “He had a large measure of creative and comedic genius.”

Judge Young was also a valued member of the *Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street* cast that each holiday season performs the courtroom scene from the classic 1947 movie for school children at Delaware courthouses. Judge Young performed in a variety of roles and most recently he appeared as the psychiatrist in one of the December 2020 performances, which was held by Zoom due to the pandemic.

Prior to joining the court, Judge Young began his career practicing law in Dayton, Ohio in 1969. He was admitted to the Delaware Bar in 1975 and opened a practice in Dover. In 1996, his son joined the firm and they practiced as Young & Young until he was appointed to the bench. After he retired from Superior Court he joined the firm Reger Rizzo & Darnall LLP.

Judge Young was also a past president of the Delaware State Bar Association and the Delaware Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates. He was a past counselor of the Terry-Carey Inn of Court, and was the recipient of its Professionalism Award. He also received a number of

other legal and community-based awards, including the Shofar Judicial Award for Outstanding Service, the ABOTA Distinguished Service Recognition Award, the Combined Campaign for Justice's Appreciation Recognition, and the American Inns of Court Award for Professionalism, among others.

Information on funeral services is not yet available.