

## Honorable Francis "Buddy" Restivo

Francis Restivo was born in 1921. He grew up in Toledo, attending Central Catholic High School, before earning his Bachelor's and Law degrees from the University of Toledo.

He married Jane in 1943 and the couple had the good fortune to celebrate their 70<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary several days before his passing on July 2, 2013.

In World War II, he was a member of the Air Force 136<sup>th</sup> Radio Intelligence Squadron, based in England.

During his early years as a lawyer, Judge Restivo served as an Assistant Ohio Attorney General, an Assistant Lucas County Prosecutor, and Solicitor to Sylvania, Walbridge and Northwood. He also served on Toledo City Council in the late 1950s.

Francis Restivo became president of the Civil Service Commission in 1970.

In 1971 Governor Gilligan appointed him to serve on the Toledo Municipal Court bench. He was elected to that position later that year and won re-election in 1973 and 1979.

In 1980 Judge Restivo was elected to a vacancy on the Lucas County Common Pleas Court. He was re-elected in 1982 and retired from the Common Pleas bench in 1986. Following his retirement, Judge Restivo continued to hear cases as a visiting judge throughout Northwest Ohio. He could often be found during those years at the Lucas County Probate Court, assisting his former bailiff, Judge Jack Puffenberger.

Judge Restivo was a true "peoples judge." He was compassionate, understood human nature and was gifted with a good sense of humor. He applied those traits together with a good deal of legal knowledge to achieve just and practical results in his decisions. He was especially welcoming when new lawyers appeared in his courtroom.

On the bench, Judge Restivo was all business. But after the docket concluded, back in chambers, he would turn the discussion to fishing or the previous night's college basketball games. He was a diehard UT Rocket basketball fan.

His kindness and generosity extended well beyond the bench as Judge Restivo was actively involved in numerous charities including Old Newsboys and the Italian American Sports Club of Toledo.

Besides his wife, Jane, Judge Restivo is survived by three daughters, Janet, Deborah and Bernadette, and son, Joseph. Additionally, thirteen grandchildren, and at the time of his passing, thirteen great-grandchildren survived.