

Memorial for M. Donald Carmin

M. Donald Carmin was born November 14, 1932 in Cincinnati, Ohio and died May 6, 2013 at his home in Rotonda West, Florida. Don received his undergraduate degree from Ohio University and his juris doctorate degree from the University of Toledo College of Law in 1965. He was admitted to the Bar of Ohio in 1965.

Don was a veteran of the United States Air Force and following admission to the Bar, joined he the firm of Eastman, Stichter, Smith & Bergman as an associate, focusing his practice primarily in insurance defense litigation. He became a partner of the Firm in 1970 and remained with the Firm until his retirement in 1999. While at the Firm, Don served in various capacities, including Chairman of the Firm's Litigation Department, and was a valued mentor and friend to all who worked with him, especially young associates who he frequently regaled with stories about his courtroom exploits.

During his career, Don tried many high profile and significant cases and was counsel in more than 25 reported decisions, including at least five decisions by the Ohio Supreme Court. Don was a skilled trial lawyer and advocate and was well liked and respected by his colleagues and the judicial officers before whom he appeared.

Don had many interests aside from the practice of law and was an avid hunter, boater and fisherman on Lake Erie. For many years, Don went on fishing excursions to the Caribbean and Canada with friends, including fellow attorneys John Wagoner and Buzz Steinberg, and on deer hunting trips to Southern Ohio. After returning from one of his Caribbean fishing trips, Don told all who would listen about the shark he had caught and which he was having taxidermied. Expectations were high before the delivery of the animal and, when it arrived, many were not surprised to find that it was much smaller than the mental pictures Don had created.

Following his retirement, Don and his wife Ann, traveled throughout the United States and Canada and to many foreign countries. In later years, they spent winters at their home in Florida and summers at their home in Maumee, Ohio. Don was always of good humor and, following a court victory, could sometimes be heard reciting the words from the old Mac Davis song "*Lord, It's Hard to Humble.*"

Don is survived by his wife, Ann, daughters Christine and Tracy, son James and Dave, five grandchildren and his rescue dog, Cody.