

Beyond the Court, he was an avid reader and sports enthusiast. He also loved to travel to Clear Lake with his wife Jane and spend time with his family, including the family dog.

Judge Fagg died on July 14, 2015, in Johnston, Iowa, at the age of 81. He is survived by his six children and twelve grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife of almost 50 years.



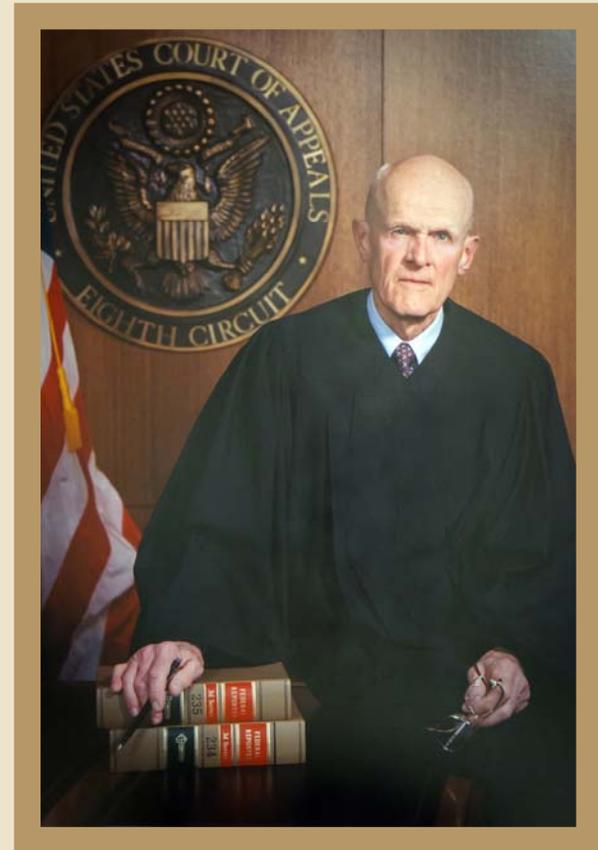
Judge Fagg, his wife Jane, and their dog Josie.

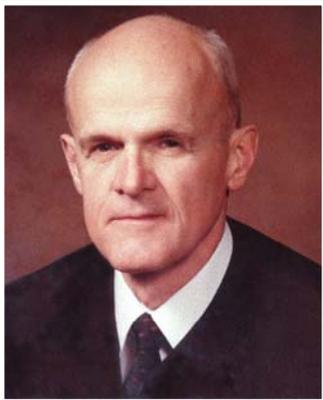


THE HONORABLE GEORGE G. FAGG

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE EIGHTH CIRCUIT

1934-2015





George G. Fagg was born on April 30, 1934, in Eldora, Iowa, to Ned and Arleene Fagg. The Fagg family owned and operated a local dairy, an upbringing which instilled in him the lifelong and productive habit of getting a very early start to the day. As such, Judge Fagg was known for his early hours, arriving consistently to his chambers at 4 a.m.

Fagg played center on his high school football team and was a varsity baseball player. He earned his bachelor's degree from the College of Business at Drake University in 1956 and his law degree from Drake University Law School in 1958. He graduated first in his class for both degrees, served as editor of *Drake Law Review* from 1957 to 1958, and was admitted to the Order of the Coif.

After law school he worked as a trial attorney in Marshalltown, Iowa, in the Cartwright firm (later Cartwright, Druker, Ryden & Fagg) from 1958 to 1972. In 1972, he was appointed Iowa District Court Judge for the Second Judicial District, where he served with distinction for 10 years.



Judge Fagg at his confirmation hearing in 1982 with Iowa's U.S. Senators Charles Grassley (left) and Roger Jepsen (right). Signed: "Judge George Fagg - You are #one in the hearts and minds of your friends thru-out Iowa. Congratulations—and—Best Wishes! Roger W Jepsen, U.S. Senator - Iowa"

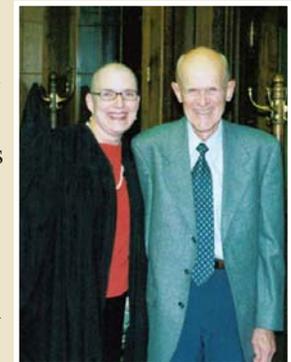
In 1982, George Fagg was nominated by President Ronald Reagan to succeed Judge Roy L. Stephenson on the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. He received his commission on October 1, 1982, and was sworn in on November 1, 1982. He assumed senior status on May 1, 1999, and retired on July 21, 2006.



U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit shortly after Judge Fagg joined the Court. Standing L-R: John R. Gibson, Richard S. Arnold, Donald R. Ross, Theodore McMillian, George G. Fagg. Sitting L-R: Gerald W. Heaney, Donald P. Lay, Myron H. Bright.

As a jurist, he was known for his prolific production of succinct opinions. In his senior status resolution, Judge

David Hansen noted that Judge Fagg consistently produced the most opinions on the Court, and more, that he, "out of a deep respect for a collegial team approach to the Court's work and because of his own modesty, authors more per curiam opinions than signed ones." For more than five years after taking senior status, Judge Fagg willingly continued to carry the caseload of an active judge. Such was his devotion to his duties as a judicial officer on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit.



Judge Celeste Bremer of the Southern District of Iowa and Judge Fagg at U.S. Court of Appeals Judge Colloton's swearing in, 2003. "George was a good sport about our matching hairdos." — Judge Bremer

Judge Fagg was also known for being able to use his "finely tuned but generally privately displayed sense of humor" to lighten a tense moment in a contested case conference and for listening to other judges' views, both valuable traits in enabling consensus to build.