

JUDGE WILLIAM JAY RILEY

U.S. COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE EIGHTH CIRCUIT



JUDGE WILLIAM JAY RILEY



Judge Riley accepting the gavel at his investiture as Chief Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit, April 7, 2010. *In background L-R:* Circuit Judge C. Arlen Beam, Nebraska's Chief Judge Joseph F. Bataillon, and Circuit Judge Bobby E. Shepherd.



U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit, 2010. *Seated L-R:* Judges Diana E. Murphy, Roger L. Wollman, William Jay Riley (Chief), James B. Loken, Kermit E. Bye. *Standing L-R:* Judges Bobby E. Shepherd, Raymond W. Gruender, Lavenski R. Smith, Michael J. Melloy, Steven M. Colloton, Duane Benton.



Judicial Conference of the United States, September 13, 2011. Chief Judge Riley (*front row, right end*) and EDMO Judge Rodney W. Sippel (*back row, center*) representing the Eighth Circuit.

William Jay Riley was born March 11, 1947, in Lincoln, Nebraska. He graduated from Lincoln High School in 1965 and attended the University of Nebraska, where he graduated with his bachelor's degree in 1969 and his law degree, with distinction, in 1972. He is a member of Phi Beta Kappa and Order of the Coif and was editor-in-chief of the *Nebraska Law Review*.

Following law school, he clerked for Judge Donald P. Lay of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit from 1972 to 1973.

Riley then began a 28-year career as a premier civil trial attorney with Fitzgerald, Schorr, Barmettler & Brennan in Omaha, where he was a shareholder and headed the firm's trial department.

In 2001, he was nominated by President George W. Bush to succeed Judge C. Arlen Beam on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. He was unanimously confirmed by the Senate two months later and received his commission on August 3, 2001. He served as Chief Judge of the Eighth Circuit from April 1, 2010 until March 10, 2017, and assumed senior status on June 30, 2017.

Judge Riley served on the U.S. Judicial Conference as Chief Judge of the Eighth Circuit and was appointed to its Executive Committee. In addition, he was appointed by Chief Justice Rehnquist and reappointed by Chief Justice Roberts to serve on its Criminal Law Committee.

Judge Riley is a fellow and past state chair with the American College of Trial Lawyers, a member and former state president of the American Board of Trial Advocates, and a counselor and charter member of the Robert M. Spire Inns of Court. He is a former president and executive council member of the Omaha Bar Association, House Delegate and former Ethics Committee chair with the Nebraska State Bar Association, and chair of the Federal Practice Committee for Nebraska. He is Board Certified in Civil Trial Advocacy by the National Board of Trial Advocacy and has been an adjunct professor in trial practice at Creighton University School of Law and in trial advocacy at the University of Nebraska College of Law.

THE CHIEF JUDGE

Right: Chief Judge Riley opening the 2014 Eighth Circuit Judicial Conference in Omaha.



Below, top: Chief Judge Riley and Chief Justice Roberts in "A Conversation with the Honorable John G. Roberts, Jr.," 2016 Eighth Circuit Judicial Conference in Rogers, AR.

Second below: Chief Judge Riley introducing a program with Justice Alito, facilitated by Judge Duane Benton, 2013 Eighth Circuit Judicial Conference in Estes Park, CO.



Eighth Circuit Judicial Council meeting, 2014. *Seated L-R:* Judges Beam (Circuit), Reade (Chief NDIA), Loken (Circuit), Riley, Wollman (Circuit), Bye (Circuit), Kelly (Circuit), Lange (SD). *Standing L-R:* Smith-Camp (Chief NE), Marshall (EDAR), Tunheim (MN), Melloy (Circuit), Hovland (ND), Schreier (SD), Sippel (EDMO), Perry (Chief EDMO), Davis (Chief MN), Adams (Circuit Executive), Bataillon (NE), Dow (Bankruptcy WDMO), Hickey (WDAR), Gerrard (NE), Phillips (WDMO), Benton (Circuit), Gruender (Circuit), Shepherd (Circuit), Gossett (Magistrate NE), Hays (Magistrate WDMO).



Below: Chief Judge Riley presiding at Judge John R. Gibson's retirement ceremony, May 5, 2011, in Kansas City. *L-R:* Circuit Judges Benton, Melloy, Gibson, Riley, Arnold, Smith.



Above: Chief Judge Riley presiding at Court of Appeals meeting, 2012 Eighth Circuit Judicial Conference.



Right: Chief Judge Riley presenting award to EDMO Judge Catherine Perry, Eighth Circuit Judicial Conference, Rogers, AR, 2016.



Chief Judge Riley opening the 2013 Judicial Conference in Estes Park, CO, with Nancy Bell singing the national anthem and Administrative Office Director Judge Thomas F. Hogan and Federal Judicial Center Director Judge Jeremy D. Fogel in attendance.



Chief Judge Riley presiding at Eighth Circuit Judicial Conference in Kansas City, 2012.

Above: Opening remarks.

Right: Awards luncheon.



THE MAN

Below: Eagle Scout son Kevin with Scoutmaster Bill. Judge Riley was also a member of the Mid-America Council of the Boy Scouts of America Board of Trustees and earned their Award of Merit and Silver Beaver Award.



Right: Bill, wife Norma, and son Brian at Palace of Versailles with American College of Trial Lawyers.



Bill and Norma Riley.

2014 caricature of Chief Judge Riley and his chambers staff by Rachel Mindrup, wife of career law clerk Jeff Mindrup. *Front row L-R:* Judicial Assistant Kris Schneiss, Erick Reitz, Jeff Mindrup. *Back row L-R:* Jariel Rendell, Judge Riley, Carol Svolos.



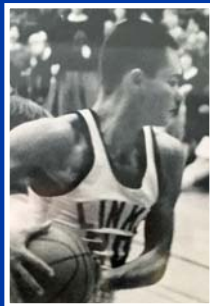
Judge Riley with his grandchildren.



Above: Daughter Erin and Bill at Debutante Ball.



Left: Chief Judge Riley with Senior Staff Attorney Kim Jones, Circuit Executive Millie Adams, and Circuit Librarian Ann Fessenden at court dinner at Busch Stadium, Sept. Court Week 2011. As Chief, Judge Riley changed the venue and tone of annual dinner from formal event, typically held in a conference ballroom, to informal.



Judge Riley playing basketball as a young man *at left and below*, at the 2012 Judicial Conference in Kansas City.



Right: Chief Judge Riley with the Cardinals jacket and bobblehead made in his likeness, gifts from the Court of Appeals unit heads at his 70th birthday party in St. Louis, March 7, 2017.



Caricature of Chief Judge Riley and his 2011 chambers staff by Rachel Mindrup. *L-R:* Judicial Assistant Kris Schneiss, Jason Grams, Mark Hill, Judge Riley, Jeff Mindrup, Tim Vavricek.

Above: Judge Riley in his bike-riding shirt, Sesame Street Grover, after he fell off his bike and broke his wrist. Judge Melloy sent him pink training wheels.



Above, right: The Blues Brothers: Chief Judge Riley with his law clerks in 2012 at his annual pumpkin carving Halloween party in Omaha. *L-R:* Ben Williams, Philip Tinker, Judge Riley, Jariel Rendell, Jeff Mindrup.