Santa Clara County’s Longest Serving Judge Passes
Judge Paul Teilh served as a Santa Clara County judge from 1966 to 2010

SAN JOSE, Calif. (December 28, 2012): the Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara (Court) sadly reports the passing on December 26th of Judge Paul Teilh, the longest serving member of the County’s bench.

Judge Teilh was born in San Francisco to French immigrant parents in 1916. He attended Sacred Heart High School and the University of California, Berkeley (Chemistry) and La Salle Extension. Judge Teilh passed the Bar in 1955 as well as the County Clerk’s exam. He also was active in the California National Guard and was Commander of the Guard during the 1965 Los Angeles Watts riots. He was also President of the parish council of St. John Vianney Church.

After service in World War II, Judge Teilh served as Secretary to the San Francisco County Clerk. He was the first appointed Clerk of Santa Clara County. Judge Teilh was elected a Municipal Court judge in 1966 and then became a Superior Court judge in 1980. Judge Teilh officially retired in 1986 but soon returned to work as an assigned judge until June 30, 2010.

“Judge Paul Teilh was a man of a few but carefully chosen words. He was a remarkable public servant and will be long remembered as one of the pillars of our bench,” said Presiding Judge Richard J. Loftus, Jr. “We will miss him greatly and are profoundly grateful for his incredible service to this County, State and our nation.”

Services will be on January 7th, St. John Vianney Church at 9 AM. Burial services follow, Golden Gate National Cemetery (San Bruno) at 11 AM with military honors.

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