

ELAINE NELSON

Nelson, 75, of Dallas, died April 21, 2023. She received her law degree from Baylor Law School, where she graduated cum laude, and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1978.

Nelson was assistant general counsel to Austin Industries in Dallas from 1978 to 1986 and general counsel from 1986 to 2012. She was articles editor for the *Baylor Law Review*, a founding member of the State Bar of Texas and Dallas Bar Association construction law sections, and a graduate of Leadership Dallas and Leadership Texas. Nelson is remembered for her magnificent mind, quick wit, and humility. She is survived by her husband, David; daughter, Harlan Hrcncir; brother, Galen Edwards; and three grandchildren.

ROBERT STEPHEN MOLINA

Molina, 75, of Dallas, died April 2, 2023. He received his law degree from Southern Methodist University School of Law and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1974. Molina

was general counsel to the Oman Oil Company in Muscat, Sultanate of Oman; vice president, general counsel, and secretary for Benton Oil and Gas Company; vice president and general counsel to Vastar Resources, Inc.; chief counsel to ARCO Latin America in Caracas, Venezuela; general attorney for ARCO Oil and Gas Company, the Atlantic Richfield Company upstream, midstream, and wholesale marketing operating company division; and of counsel to Dentons and Patton Boggs. He served on the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission and was director of the Master of Science in Energy Management program in the Naveen Jindal School of Management at the University of Texas at Dallas. Molina is remembered for his love of traveling, hunting with his kids, and teaching college students. Molina is survived by his wife of 53 years, Susan Kay Horner; daughter, Kay Molina; sons, Tim Molina and Jeff Molina; and grandson.

GLENN WHEELER VICKERY

Vickery, 84, of Moss Hill, died January 29, 2023. He received his law degree from South Texas College of Law and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1966.

Vickery was a state representative for Baytown from 1967 to 1968; a justice of the peace in Baytown from 1968 to 1970; a trial attorney with Glenn Vickery + Associates in Baytown from 1970 to 1995; and a trial attorney with Vickery & Linebaugh in Baytown from 1995 to 2004. He was certified in personal injury trial law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. Vickery was survived by his daughters, Ronda Vickery, Teresa Vickery MacKillop, and Jessica Vickery; and two grandchildren.

PATRICIA ANNE HOOD FOSTER SKELTON

Skelton, 64, of Real County, died May 22, 2023. She received her law degree from St. Mary's University School of Law and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1989. Skelton practiced law in

Pleasanton from 1988 to 1995, practiced in Leakey from 1995 to 1998, and was county attorney of Real County in 1998. As a student, she served on the legal review board of St. Mary's Law. Skelton is survived by her sons, Jordan Foster and Jeep Skelton; mother, Erika Hood; and brother, Michael Hood.

HON. ROBERT "SHEARN" SMITH

Smith, 95, of Houston, died January 17, 2023. He received his law degree from the University of Houston College of Law and was admitted to the Texas

Bar in 1951. Smith served in the U.S. Navy and was a World War II veteran. He was judge of the 61st District Court in Harris County from 1968 to 1996. Smith, along with District Clerk Ray Hardy, implemented the "One Day/One Trial" system that has become a nationwide system; and was president of the University of Houston Alumni. Smith is remembered for being a great

delegator, reading everything submitted before every hearing and expecting attorneys to be prepared, and for singing the national anthem at University of Houston football and basketball games from 1968 to 2015. He is survived by his sons, Ronald and Donald; five grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

MICHAEL L. BRANDES

Brandes, 76, of Temple, died November 14, 2022. He received his law degree from the University of Texas School of Law and was admitted to the Texas

Bar in 1970. Brandes was a solo practitioner at Michael L. Brandes, Attorney at Law in Austin from 1971 to 2010. He is remembered as a dynamic speaker who was inspirational in his personal and work life, for founding His Truth Ministries, and for teaching Bible studies at the Travis County Courthouse. Brandes is survived by his wife of 57 years, Delores S. Brandes; daughters, Meredith Brandes England and Bryanna Brandes Kenney; sister, Jen Sue Bartek; and four grandchildren.

RONALD MORTON MANKOFF

Mankoff, 91, of Dallas, died June 27, 2023. He served in the U.S. Navy from May 1954 to May 1957. Mankoff received his law degree from New York

University School of Law and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1959. He was a first-year associate of Leonard, Street and Deinard in Minneapolis, Minnesota, from June 1957 to August 1958; an attorney with Lynne, Blanchett, Smith & Sheldon in Dallas from July 1959 to July 1960; a partner in Durant Hobby & Mankoff in Dallas from 1960 to 1985; and a partner in Brice & Mankoff in Dallas from 1985 to 1996. Mankoff argued more than 50 tax cases and appeals, including *Commissioner v. Tufts* in the U.S. Supreme Court, and taught for three years at Southern Methodist University School of Law. He is remembered for his love of woodworking, painting, and golf. Mankoff is survived by his wife of 64 years, Joy Mankoff; sons, Jeffrey Mankoff and Douglas Mankoff; and five grandchildren. **TBJ**