



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

District of New Mexico
Pete V. Domenici United States Courthouse
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M. Christina Armijo
Chief Judge

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June 2, 2014

The Judges and staff of the United States District Court for the District of New Mexico mourn the loss of Senior United States District Judge John Edwards Conway. We feel blessed for having had the privilege to work with and know this exemplary man. I have extended our deepest condolences to his family.

Senior United States District Judge John Edwards Conway passed away on Sunday, June 1, 2014, at the age of 79.

Judge Conway was nominated by President Ronald Reagan to the United States District Court on June 16, 1986 and was sworn in on July 3, 1986. He was elevated to Chief Judge November 11, 1994 and served in that capacity until September 1, 2000 when he assumed senior status. He honorably served the District of New Mexico for 28 years.

Judge Conway graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1956 and accepted a commission as a 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Air Force and was selected for flight school. For over 4 years he flew numerous planes, including the B-47, the primary long range bomber for the Air Force at the time. He attended Washburn University School of Law, graduating magna cum laude and first in his class. He began the practice of law in Alamogordo, New Mexico, in 1966. In 1970 he was elected to the New Mexico Legislature and served as Republican Minority Floor Leader in the Senate from 1973-1980. He then moved to Albuquerque where he continued to practice law. Soon thereafter he was appointed to the Federal bench. In 2003, Judge Conway was appointed to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court by Chief Justice William Rehnquist.

Judge Conway will be remembered not only for his public service within the judiciary and for his service to his country as a Naval aviator, but also for his service to all citizens of the State of New Mexico. During his term in the New Mexico Legislature, he successfully led a bipartisan effort to modernize the State's Criminal Code, the Eminent Domain Code and the Probate Code.

In honor of Judge John Edwards Conway, I have ordered that the flags outside the courthouses of the United States District Court for the District of New Mexico be flown at half-staff.