



MYRON LEAVITT (Class of 1948)

Justice Myron Leavitt was a native Nevadan, born in Las Vegas in 1930. As a private attorney for 28 years, he successfully argued the case that forced the Nevada Legislature to reapportion itself according to population.

Myron began his elective career as a Las Vegas Township Justice of the Peace in 1961-62. As Justice of the Peace, he established the first medical-coroner system in Clark County by appointing a medical doctor as Chief Deputy Coroner.

Myron also established the first night court for Small Claims. Myron served on the Clark County Commission from 1971 to 1974 and the Las Vegas City Council from 1975 to 1978.

As County Commissioner, he initiated the drive to build the Dula Senior Citizen Center and brought the City of Las Vegas and Clark County together for joint funding of the project. While Chairman of the County Commission, four new courtrooms were built, a county morgue was funded and built, and the expansion of the health district complex was completed.

As City Councilman, he worked for the donation of land by the State and joined funding by the county and the state in order to establish a sheriff's substation in the southeastern sector of the valley.

Myron was elected Lieutenant Governor of the State of Nevada and served from 1979 to 1982. As Lieutenant Governor, he cast the deciding vote to break a tie and retain capital punishment in the state.

Myron was also successful in halting action to remove the Lieutenant Governor as President of the Senate. He was appointed as a District Court Judge, Department 14, by then Governor Richard Bryan and served for 14 years.

Myron presided over numerous civil and criminal trials, including more than 30 murder trials. He was retained in three elections and served until he was elected to the Nevada Supreme Court in 1998.

Myron was re-elected to the Supreme Court in 2000 for a seven year term. He died in January, 2004, before completing his second term.

In addition to the elected offices, Justice Leavitt served as a North Las Vegas Deputy City Attorney (1957), as a member of the Clark County Juvenile Probation Committee (1961), the attorney for the Clark County District Health Board as well as a member of the board.

While at Las Vegas High, Justice Leavitt was editor of the Desert Breeze and was named the outstanding athlete of his class in 1948. He won three letters each in football and track as well as all-state honors in American Legion baseball. During his senior year he was state champion in both the 100 and 220 yard dash.

Myron won an athletic scholarship to the University of Nevada where he won letters in both football and track and was named sports editor of the university newspaper. He was a member of Sigma Delta Chi and Lambda Chi Alpha. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in journalism.

Myron worked for one year as the sports editor of the Las Vegas Review Journal before attending law school at the University of Utah. Justice Leavitt was one of the original founders and coaches of Little League baseball in Southern Nevada. He was active in Southern Nevada Junior Football, where he served as a legal advisor and coach for 10 years. He also coached Bobby Sox softball and was named manager of the all-star team in 1985.

Myron had 11 children (all of whom graduated from Las Vegas High School) and 34 grandchildren. Five of his children are lawyers. His daughter, Michelle Leavitt is a District Court Judge in Department 12, where her father had presided for 14 years.

These biographies are based on research and could contain discrepancies.

If there are any excerpts you feel should be changed please feel free to contact me at Dave@lvhsaa.com

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