



## Judge Terry L. Bullock

September 29, 1939 - August 2, 2019

Judge Terry L. Bullock, of Topeka, Kansas, and Palm Springs, California, passed away Friday, August 2, 2019, at Homestead in Topeka. He was born September 29, 1939, in Herington, Kansas, the son of Orville I. and Hazel J. Bullock. He is survived by his daughter, Susan Bullock, of Topeka and his son, John T. Bullock, and grandchildren, Cooper Borge Bullock and Kiefer Caldwell Bullock, all of Lawrence.

Judge Bullock spent his childhood in Wilsey, Morris County, Kansas, where he graduated valedictorian of Wilsey High School in 1957. In 1961, he graduated, cum laude, from Kansas State University where he sang with the K-State Singers, touring the Far East under the direction of William R. Fischer. While at K-State, Judge Bullock was a member of Delta Upsilon Fraternity; later becoming a Member of the Board and President of the International Fraternity. He was also elected to Blue Key, senior men's honorary, and Phi Eta Sigma and Phi Kappa Phi, scholastic honoraries.

In 1964, Judge Bullock graduated with honors from the University of Kansas School of Law. During his law school days, he interned in the office of William Ferguson, Attorney General of Kansas, served as an Editor of the Kansas Law Review and was elected to the Order of the Coif, the law school scholastic honorary. Upon graduation, Judge Bullock began the practice of law with the Topeka firm of Cosgrove, Webb and Oman.

In 1976, Judge Bullock was appointed District Judge of Kansas, and was retained in that office by the people of his district for over 30 years. Judge Bullock served as Chief Judge for five years and often sat with the Kansas Court of Appeals and the Kansas Supreme Court by special appointment. As chief Judge, he was instrumental in creating the first in the nation paperless system for the electronic processing of great numbers of cases efficiently and quickly. In his judicial work, Judge Bullock is best known for his constitutional decisions concerning the funding of the educational system for the State of Kansas.

Judge Bullock taught Legal Ethics at both the University of Kansas School of Law and the Washburn University School of Law. His teaching activities spanned 38 years and his students numbered in excess of 10,000.

Judge Bullock was honored by the Topeka and Kansas Bar Associations with their highest lifetime achievement awards. He was also a member of the American and Kansas Bar Associations and a lifetime member of the Fellows of the Kansas and American Bars. In the years following his active service on the bench, he continued to assist the bench and bar, serving as Mediator, Consultant, Special Master, Special Administrator and Expert Witness.

Judge Bullock was a founding member of the Topeka Festival Singers, with whom he performed for over 25 years, touring Europe under the direction of Dr. Kevin Kellim. He was also a member of the A.F. & A.M., Scottish Rite Bodies (32nd Degree), and the Episcopal Church.

Judge Bullock deeply loved his family, his friends, his profession, the Court, his music and his students. His fondest hope was that they all continue to grow, to prosper and to flourish.

Judge Bullock's funeral service will be August 16, Friday, at 2 p.m. in Grace Episcopal Cathedral, Topeka. Burial will be in Wilsey Cemetery, Wilsey, Kansas.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a memorial donation to the Kansas Bar Foundation or to Delta Upsilon Foundation, sent in care of Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614.

## Cemetery Details

### Wilsey Cemetery

Wilsey, KS

## Previous Events

### Funeral Service

AUG **16**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Grace Episcopal Cathedral  
701 SW 8th Avenue  
Topeka, KS 66603

# Tribute Wall



“ Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Judge Terry L. Bullock



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Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home - August 08, 2019 at 05:21 PM



“ Judge Terry L. Bullock

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January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ My deepest condolences to the broader family of Judge Bullock. I was one of the 10,000 ethics students while at KU Law. Judge Bullock sat down on the table in front of the podium and had a conversation with the future lawyers of Kansas. Worst grade I received in law school - something that bothered me for a bit, as I had a graduate degree in ethics! - but as it turns out, it was just a hard class. Net result: I know ethics forwards and backwards, and Judge Bullock made a strong impression. I'm grateful for my experience, but I suspect there are many others. And I'm grateful as a ex-pat Kansan for his time, service, and dedication to the State. RIP.

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John P. Smolen, Esq. - September 26, 2019 at 08:15 AM

RS

“ Terry was a law student in 1963 when I started practice in the AG's office. His superior mind was obvious from the start. So sorry to learn of his passing. Dick Seaton

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**richard seaton** - September 10, 2019 at 11:01 AM

DO

“ Terry Bullock was our closest and dearest friend from the moment that we arrived in Topeka in summer 1996. We were immediately taken into the Bullock fold, and from that moment on our lives were richer, grander, and just more fun.

*There are simply too many stories to tell: the tales range from my nick-naming his maroon Lincoln Town Car “The Judgemobile” to our frequent Saturday day-long, coffee-laden antique outings through the gorgeous Flint Hills of Eastern Kansas.*

*This photo was made in his Palm Springs condo dining room after our wedding in October 2008, for which Terry offered us his condo and exclusive use of The Desert Fox (the Palm Springs sea foam green Town Car – he named that one). The original plan was for Terry to be with us that week, but when at the last minute he was called to teach at the Washburn Law School, Terry insisted that we go ahead, pick up the condo and car keys, stay the week, enjoy the condo, and proceed with our wedding plans. There was to be no discussion or change of plans, and we did just as he said.*

*Terry was like that: always supportive, marvelously resourceful, kind to a fault, generous beyond measure, ever the eternal optimist, insistent that life lived to its absolute fullest. The world is a duller and sadder (and strangely quieter) place today without "His Judgeness." We will always love him and be thankful for his friendship and presence in our lives.*

*Lee Middleton and Dr. David Ouzts  
Memphis, Tennessee*



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David Ouzts - August 16, 2019 at 10:31 PM



“ *The Honorable Terry Bullock has been an inspiration in my life since first meeting him after pledging in the spring of 1968. I am confident that others feel the same. But perhaps the most meaningful contribution in his life is what he did for all the children of Kansas in rendering the correct decision in the Montoy case. He revealed that he was truly a man of courage, wisdom and integrity. Our state will forever reap the benefits of his vision of the importance of education.*

*Terry J. Malone '71*

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**Terry Malone** - August 14, 2019 at 06:55 PM

“ *Memories of some people stay with you for a lifetime. Terry Bullock was one of those people. I first met him during rush week in '59. He was bigger than life with a welcoming personality. He was one of many in the DU house who impressed me. Later on His singing skills came to the forefront assisted by Frosty White. His devotion to the chapter and his skill in intrafraternity relations were also notable. I ran into him later and I think he might have been in law school. He had lost a substantial amount of weight and I wouldn't have recognized him except for the cheery reception he gave me and he was still wearing the same hair cut! My condolences to the family.*

*Mike Mahaffey 63, 65*

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**Michael Mahaffey** - August 12, 2019 at 11:27 PM

D'

“ I, and quite a few other Manhattan High 1962 graduates, first met Brother Bullock when he and a couple of other K-State DU Alums decided that we should pledge Delta Upsilon. We followed his advice, and in 1963 the group of us became active members of the K-State Chapter. Shortly thereafter began our frequent pilgrimages to Topeka to discuss Chapter matters with Terry. His advice was always correct and I do not recall ever ignoring it.

*I spent '64-'65 in Giessen, West Germany, but when I returned I found a much-improved Chapter that was divided about its future direction. After I was elected President in the spring of '66 and again the following semester, the number of my visits to Terry increased dramatically. The Chapter officers had implemented a number of innovative ideas, and Terry encouraged me to have them write them down, with my principal task rewriting them into a single, coherent document.*

*I typed, retyped, and sent drafts to Terry – and he returned edited versions which I retyped. Finally he decided that other DU chapters could benefit from K-States' experience, and he arranged to send our lengthy report to the National DU office for them to distribute. It was titled “The Kansas Report” because he wisely felt it would more likely be read with that title, given that the K-State Chapter was relatively young. Terry opined that, as a result of our report, our Chapter might even win an award or two at the national convention in '67. Once again he was right!*

*The K-State Chapter won the Sweepstakes award for the first of many times that year! It happened because Terry gave us the direction necessary to organize our Report, and he pushed us when it was necessary to see the task through to completion. I have no doubt that the Chapter's subsequent wins were also influenced by his advice and wisdom.*

*It is all the more remarkable that Terry's impact on K-State DU as well as the National DU was greatest after he graduated. His*

*character and beliefs influenced all of those around him, likely including thousands of DU's who never met him, as well as everyone with whom he interacted. I will miss him very much.*

*Dave Parker, '67  
dlparker@salisbury.edu*

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**Dave Parker '67** - August 12, 2019 at 11:16 AM

GT

“ *Terry gave a speech at a DU dinner 6 or 7 years ago after a football game. It was awesome beyond belief and I did not know whether to stand and cheer, so did nothing. I think that the whole room of DUs felt the same way. I am so sorry that I did not get to tell him how much that speech meant.*

*Gary Turner, Shawnee KS*

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**Gary Edward Turner** - August 11, 2019 at 05:18 PM

KF

“ *I was sad to see of Terry's passing. I grew up in Wilsey although 7 years younger , have many fond memories of Terry. My memory comes from fact that Terry was age wise between my two brothers at Wilsey. He indeed was a great man and was a good example for all that knew him.*

*Ken Francis*

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**Ken Francis** - August 10, 2019 at 11:35 AM

GL

“ I am sorry to hear about the passing of brother Terry. It was through his and brother Frosty W. vocal efforts that we were able to make a good impression singing our songs. We were fortunate to have him as a leader for the early years in our chapter as well as on the national level. Hopefully we all will be able to see him again someday.

*Glen Lewallen '59*

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**Glen Lewallen** - August 09, 2019 at 06:13 PM

RB

“ Judge Bullock was my Ethics teacher in 1984 at KU Law. He was a wonderful teacher. A particularly clear memory of him was our final exam. It was 50 multiple choice questions, just like the test we would all have to take to become lawyers. He told us that we graded it ourselves because if we were dishonest he would see us later when we faced disciplinary charges. He taught me the difference between professional ethics and morality and why we, as lawyers, had to understand that difference and respect it. His teaching has served me well in my 34 year (and counting) career.

*Rob Backus  
KU Law 1985  
Burlington, Vermont*

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**Robert H. Backus** - August 08, 2019 at 12:51 PM

BG

“ I knew him well through KBA. A smart and trustworthy man. A respected judge.

*Bob Green*  
*KSU 1964*  
*KU Law 1967*  
*Ottawa Ks.*

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**Bob Green** - August 08, 2019 at 11:39 AM

SB

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



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**susan bullock** - August 07, 2019 at 08:07 PM

SB

“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



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**susan bullock** - August 07, 2019 at 07:59 PM

LJ

“ Susan:  
*Thinking of you and hoping the lifetime of memories of your Dad will be of comfort. I will always remember the time you invited me to dinner and he joined us. It was a pleasure to meet him and hear some of his stories! He was so charming, funny and...very interesting.*



*With deepest sympathy-  
Lynnette Joe-Beck*

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**Lynnette Joe-Beck** - August 07, 2019 at 01:42 PM

SB

“ Susan and John: *It is with great sadness that I write to you. I have heard about you and always wished I could have had the chance to meet you. Terry was a wonderful person. My memory to share is when we were having final week--I a freshman and he a sophomore. He was telling me what he was studying for finals, and he didn't mention any music class. I asked why he was majoring in music, and we deduced it was probably a suggestion of his mother. I then told him to ponder the idea of what he might rather study. We talked the next day, and he was so pumped up---he had decided law. I said that was quite a switch, and perhaps he should take a class or two in the summer to test it. The rest is history, as they say. We had great times singing together and dating. Although I didn't see him often, he always had a special place in my heart. We talked on the phone several times in the past year, and I heard of your activities and accomplishments. He was a super guy, and I will miss him. God be with you!! Susan Barlow (susanbarlow61356@gmail.com)*

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**susan barlow** - August 07, 2019 at 08:13 AM

JM

“ Terry had the best sense of humor. He was bright, witty, and a joy to converse with. He will be missed. My sincerest condolences to the family.

~Jeff Montague

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**Jeff Montague** - August 06, 2019 at 10:15 AM