



## Judge South Remembers Attorney Jim Hudson

Attorney James ("Jim") Hudson of Athens, Georgia, died on January 11, 2010. Jim, who was born in Hendersonville, N.C., was a graduate of Wofford College where he played football. After a stint in the Army, Jim came to Athens, Georgia, to attend law school where he coached the freshman line at the University of Georgia under Coach Wally Butts. He graduated from the University of Georgia School of Law and was admitted to the State Bar in 1958. After practicing law for over ten years, Jim joined with lawyer David Montgomery in the early 1970's and helped found the firm of Hudson and Montgomery. A legendary trial lawyer in the criminal and civil arenas, Jim retired from the practice of law in 2007 after almost fifty years.

Jim never lost his willingness to befriend all who crossed his path, whether it was opposing counsel or the luckless litigant who needed his help-for free. He was well respected by the bench and bar wherever he had a case.

On a personal note, I was lucky enough to work for Jim for almost two years while I attended law school at the University of Georgia. One day, Jim decided that we needed a break and that we would ride around Athens in his Model T Ford; he honked his horn and waved at everyone on Milledge Avenue, and everyone knew who he was! Jim was the first lawyer to explain to me how a lawyer's integrity and reputation for honesty are the foundation for success and that "sandbagging" was just plain

wrong. In a criminal case involving particularly heinous allegations, Jim reminded me that we were always "defending the Constitution" as we represented our client in court.

I attended Jim's funeral on a cold sunny morning in Athens and heard so many people talk about his generous friendship and deep love for humanity. His death, like his life, is an inspiration to those who knew him.

