

In Memoriam

Hon. Richard T. Spriggs,

March 29, 1935–October 21, 2019



Dick Spriggs took his fly rod and headed for the Big Beaver Pond in the Sky on October 21, 2019. Born on March 29, 1935 in Rome, New York, the third son of


Ernest L. and Margery C. Spriggs (Brown), he was predeceased by his parents; his stepfather James S. Brown; his brothers Tom of Naples, Florida and Jack of Pinehurst, North Carolina; and his first wife Ann Spriggs, from whom he was divorced.

Dick attended Rome Free Academy and Middlesex School. He graduated from Colgate University in 1958 with a BA in English literature and in 1961 with an LLB from Cornell Law

School. He served in the Army's 82nd Airborne Division.

Two days after receiving his law degree, Dick moved to Denver, where he enjoyed a 50-year career at the bench and bar, primarily as an assistant U.S. attorney and chief deputy district attorney. He was appointed to the Denver District Court on 8/8/88 and retired from the bench on June 1, 1999. Dick then returned to the Department of Justice, retiring for the second time in 2002. Thereafter, he served as a senior district judge until June 2005.

A lifelong cynic and chronic non-joiner, Dick enjoyed music, martinis, and his principal passion, fly fishing. He fished rivers and streams throughout the Rocky Mountain West. He also enjoyed fishing and skiing with his sons. Dick is survived by his loving wife Elizabeth Sparkman, whom he met while she was on jury duty; his

two sons Jared of Waukesha, Wisconsin and Matthew of Albuquerque, New Mexico; and five grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Dick invites you to celebrate his life by recounting it with friends over generous libations. 

In Memoriam lists the birth and death dates of recently deceased members, including obituaries and tributes as received. The CBA relies on correspondence from members for this information. To help us recognize as many members as possible, please send notices to Susie Klein at sklein@cobar.org.



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