

Court Information Release



United States District Court
Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division
219 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois 60604

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Statement of Chief Judge Rebecca R. Pallmeyer On the Passing of Retired District Judge John A. Nordberg

Chief Judge Rebecca R. Pallmeyer announced that retired District Judge John A. Nordberg passed away on March 12, 2021, at age 94.

“Judge Nordberg was a dedicated public servant. He began serving our country at age 18 in the U.S. Navy during WW II and later served with distinction on our court for 32 years. He will be remembered for his gracious dignity and kindness,” said Chief Judge Rebecca R. Pallmeyer.

Judge Nordberg was nominated by President Ronald Reagan on March 11, 1982, to a seat vacated by Judge Bernard M. Decker. He was confirmed by the Senate on April 20, 1982 and received his commission on April 21, 1982. Judge Nordberg assumed senior status on June 18, 1994 and retired from the bench in 2014.

Judge Nordberg was born in Evanston, Illinois, in 1926. In 1944, Judge Nordberg joined the U.S. Navy and served on a ship in the Pacific during WWII. He later earned his undergraduate degree from Carleton College and his law degree from University of Michigan Law School.

Upon graduation from law school, Judge Nordberg worked in private legal practice from 1950 until 1976. During that time, he served as village attorney to several northern Chicago suburbs including Wilmette, Glenview, and Morton Grove. In 1976, he became a Cook County Circuit Court Judge until joining the federal bench in 1982.

Judge Nordberg and his wife, Jane were married 73 years and have four children, 11 grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren. Our hearts and prayers are with Judge Nordberg's family and loved ones.

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