



John Nelms

November 16, 1934 - May 17, 2026

John Nelms, age 91, of Plano, passed away peacefully on May 17, 2026.

Born on November 16, 1934, in Dallas to John Fisher Nelms and Vivian Ann Marsh, John lived a life marked by dedication, service, and devotion to his family and community. He graduated from Highland Park High School in 1952 and earned his degree from Texas A&M University in 1956. He proudly served in the United States Air Force from 1957 to 1960 before graduating from The University of Texas School of Law in 1963.

John began his distinguished legal career serving as an Assistant District Attorney for Dallas County from 1963 to 1965 and again from 1988 to 1992. Between those years, he practiced law privately in Dallas from 1965 to 1988, earning the respect of colleagues and clients alike for his integrity and professionalism.

In 1992, John was elected Judge of the 195th Judicial District Court in Dallas. Re-elected to four terms, he faithfully served from November 18, 1992, until December 31, 2006. Throughout his years on the bench, Judge Nelms was known for his fairness, wisdom, and deep respect for the law.

John married Sylvia Nelms on April 19, 1975, in San Antonio, and together they shared 51 years of marriage filled with love and partnership. He was a

devoted father to his son, Brian, and a loving brother to his sisters, Judy Nelms Reed and Kathy Pietsch.

John will be remembered not only for his professional accomplishments, but also for his great sense of humor, steady character, and thoughtful guidance. His warmth and wit left a lasting impression on all who knew him.

He will be buried at the Texas State Cemetery in Austin.

He will be deeply missed, and his legacy of integrity, service, and devotion to family will continue to endure.