

## **Vassar B. Carlton**

Vassar B. Carlton, retired Florida Supreme Court justice, 92, of Franklin, passed away Wednesday, Aug. 31, 2005.

He was born in Alachua County, Fla., and attended the University of Florida and Stetson University, graduating in 1937 with a LL.B. degree. His judicial career began in 1941 when he was elected Brevard County judge at age 27, making him the youngest person ever elected to the bench in Florida. In 1954, he was elected circuit judge of Florida's old ninth circuit and served in that position until he was elected to the Florida Supreme Court in 1968, chosen as chief justice in 1973 and retired in 1974.

His honors and awards include the Honorary Doctor of Laws from Stetson Law School; Ben C. Willard award; two-time recipient of the Jaycee Good Government award; past president of the Cocoa Jaycees; past Exalted Ruler of the Cocoa Elks Club; past president of the Titusville Kiwanis Club; member of the York Rite; a Shriner and 32nd degree Mason; and a member of the Florida Bar. The American Inn of Court in Brevard County, Fla., and a courtroom in the Brevard County courthouse were named after him.

He is survived by his wife, Sue; three daughters, Martha Fulmer and husband Bryan and Mary Carol Crisafulli and husband Bud, all of Merritt Island, Fla., and Pam Sachs and husband Bob of Raleigh; a sister, Coralie Crockett; 10 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held Tuesday, Sept. 6, at 11 a.m., at Wylie-Baxley Funeral Home in Rockledge, Fla., with Rev. Peter Lord officiating.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to a favorite charity.

Bryant Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

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