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### Marvin H . Shoob, 1923-2017

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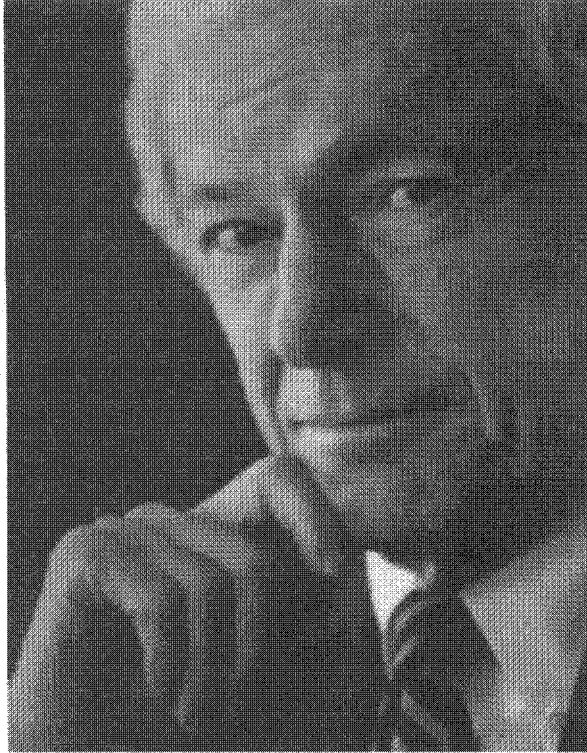
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MARVIN H. SHOOB, 1923-2017

Retired United States District Court Judge Marvin H. Shoob of the Northern District of Georgia, Atlanta Division, was born in Walterboro, South Carolina on February 23, 1923. He grew up in Savannah, Georgia. Although he studied at Georgia Tech for a year, World War II intervened. He was called into service and was sent to Virginia Military Institute where he earned an engineering degree before facing serious combat in Europe with General George Patton's Third Army.

Judge Shoob's life and legal career were dramatically affected by an incident that occurred during his time in the Army. Five frightened German soldiers abruptly surrendered to the young, solitary Shoob. An American lieutenant later asked what he planned to do with the Germans. When Judge Shoob responded "I

don't know," the lieutenant sprayed the German soldiers with his machine gun. "There, that takes care of your problem," said the lieutenant. Later, Judge Shoob would retell the story, crediting his resolve always to do the right thing, not the expedient thing, to this experience. For his military service, Judge Shoob received the Bronze Star for valor, along with a commendation from General Patton.

After the war, Marvin Shoob returned to Georgia and enrolled at the University of Georgia School of Law, graduating second in the Class of 1948. Around that time he also met and then married the love of his life, Janice Paradies. He began his career in the practice of law with Nall & Miller, subsequently partnering with others to form Shoob, McLain, Merritt & Lyle. He had a varied, but primarily civil, trial practice. Judge Shoob practiced his entire career with smaller firms, but was sufficiently well regarded that he served as legal malpractice defense counsel for one of Atlanta's largest and finest firms.

Judge Shoob was also active in Democratic Party politics. He worked with Jimmy Carter to revise the rules of the Democratic Party and served as the finance chair during the first Senate campaign of Senator Sam Nunn, who became a close friend. In 1979, when President Carter expanded the bench in Atlanta, Judge Shoob was one of the appointees. He was confirmed and served until his retirement in 2016 on his ninety-third birthday.

During his thirty-seven years on the bench, more than a few famous cases came Judge Shoob's way. Cases involving jail conditions in Fulton County (and other political jurisdictions), and the public display of the Ten Commandments in a government building, come to mind. He was a strong critic of the federal sentencing guidelines that were subsequently overturned by the Supreme Court. He is most frequently associated with a case that came early in his judicial career—a case involving 2,000 Cuban refugees (the "Marielitos") who came to the United States in the early 1980s. While he received some support for his rulings, most of the public and media reaction was negative. In this case, as in so many others, Judge Shoob's passion for justice and fundamental fairness was on full display.

Judge Shoob passed away on June 12, 2017 from complications of Alzheimer's disease. He is survived by his wife Janice; his son Michael, a Hollywood film maker; his daughter-in-law Robin; his

daughter, Senior Fulton County Superior Court Judge, Wendy Shoob; his son-in-law Walter Jospin, Southeast Regional Director of the Securities and Exchange Commission; and two grandchildren.

