



# United States Tax Court

Washington, DC 20217

April 7, 2025

## PRESS RELEASE

Judge Julian (Jerry) I. Jacobs, a treasured colleague and friend, passed away on Saturday, April 5, 2025.

Judge Jacobs graduated from the University of Maryland and University of Maryland Law School, before receiving his LLM in Taxation from Georgetown. His career began in government service, working as an attorney at the Internal Revenue Service in Washington, D.C. from 1961 to 1965, and then later, at the Regional Counsel Office in Buffalo, New York from 1965 to 1967. In 1967 he joined the firm of Gordon, Feinblatt, Rothman, Hoffberger, and Hollander, becoming a partner in 1972. In 1978 Judge Jacobs served as Chairman of study commissions to improve the quality of the Maryland Tax Court.

In 1984 President Reagan appointed him to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court. Although his term expired on March 29, 1999, he remained a productive and active member of this Court as a senior judge until 2019. He particularly enjoyed challenging cases, and even as a senior judge he authored important precedential opinions in the whistleblower context. Throughout his career, he enjoyed sharing his knowledge of tax law with colleagues and with students at several graduate tax programs, including the University of San Diego School of Law, the University of Denver School of Law, and the University of Baltimore School of Law.

Judge Jacobs is survived by his wife Donna, and his stepdaughters and his children. As his obituary states, "He will be remembered for his sharp mind, compassionate care for others, and deep commitment to justice and family." The Court has been truly enriched by the life and service of Judge Jacobs, and we will miss him.