

Mark Hulsey Jr.

1922 – 2011, Class of 1948

Mark Hulsey Jr. was a man who knew his mind, and his mind was to serve his country, community and profession.

Born Sept. 25, 1922, in Jacksonville, Fla., Hulsey completed his UF undergraduate degree in 1943. Upon graduation, he joined the U.S. Navy and served on a ship that landed at Omaha Beach on D-Day. In 1947, Hulsey joined the Naval Reserve and returned to complete law school at UF Law. While there, Hulsey was president of the Florida Blue Key and was inducted into the UF Hall of Fame.

He began practicing law in 1948 as an associate at Chester Bedell. Three years later, he was called into active duty to serve in the Korean War. While president of The Florida Bar, Hulsey inspired and encouraged creation of the Florida Judicial Qualifications Commission. After consolidation of the judicial system under the 1972 constitution, he served on the commission from 1972 to 1984 and as chairman from 1981 to 1984.

Hulsey overcame adversity in 1988 when he had a leg amputated due to complications from a hip replacement surgery. But the avid sailor still sought adventure in his spare time. At the age of 80, he took up skydiving.

In 2005, Hulsey retired as chairman emeritus from Smith, Hulsey & Busey and became a consultant for the Florida Supreme Court Historical Society project. He received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Florida Supreme Court Historical Society in 2010.

College education / Achievements

UF undergraduate degree, 1943; UF Law, J.D.; Navy officer; Helped found The Florida Bar Foundation's Interest on Trust Account Program; Member of The Florida Bar's first steering committee for continuing legal education.

Legal Experience

Associate at Chester Bedell beginning in 1948; Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Florida; Chairman emeritus at Smith, Hulsey & Busey.

Associations / Organizations / Honors

President, Jacksonville Bar Association, 1962; President, Children's Home Society, 1962 – 1965; President, Florida Bar 1969 – 1970; Chair of Florida Judicial Qualifications Commission, 1972 – 1984; Florida Bar Foundation Medal of Honor, 1985; Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce, 1989; President, UF Foundation, 1992 – 1994; Lifetime Achievement Award, Florida Supreme Court Historical Society, 2010; Chairman, UF Law Center Association, 1985; UF Distinguished Alumnus Award, 1992.