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# SUPREME COURT OF VIRGINIA



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## Press Release – January 28, 2013

Former Chief Justice Harry Lee Carrico passed away on January 27, 2013. A member of the Supreme Court since 1961, Justice Carrico served as Chief Justice from February 1, 1981, until January 31, 2003, when he retired and was designated as a Senior Justice.

On behalf of the members of the Court, Chief Justice Kinser provided the following statement:

The Supreme Court of Virginia and the entire judiciary of the Commonwealth mourn the passing of former Chief Justice Carrico. He served the judiciary and the citizens of the Commonwealth with distinction and made significant contributions to enhance the judiciary and professionalism in the practice of law during his long tenure on the Supreme Court. Justice Carrico will be greatly missed, but he leaves a legacy which will continue to inspire all who knew him and which infuses every aspect of the Judiciary in Virginia. We express our sincere condolences to his family.

Harry Lee Carrico was born in Washington, D.C., on September 4, 1916. He was one of five children born to William Temple Carrico and Nellie Adalia Willett Carrico. Reared in Fairfax County, Justice Carrico attended Fairfax County public schools and graduated from Lee Jackson High School in Alexandria. He received a law degree from George Washington University in 1942.

During World War II, he was commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Navy and served in the Naval Reserves from February 1945 until September 1946.

Justice Carrico's judicial career began in 1943 when he was appointed as a Trial Justice in the Fairfax County Court. After leaving the bench and maintaining a private practice, in 1956, he was appointed as a judge in the Sixteenth Judicial Circuit (Fairfax County) where he served until he was appointed to the Supreme Court of Virginia by Governor J. Lindsay Almond, Jr., on January 30, 1961. He became Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Virginia on February 1, 1981, and served until January 31, 2003, when he retired and took senior status. He was both the longest serving chief justice and the longest serving member in the history of the Supreme Court. He was noted for his commitment to judicial independence, civility in legal practice, and civic duty.

Justice Carrico's service was recognized by the legislature in 1990 with the passage of Senate Joint Resolution No. 154 and House Joint Resolution No. 268, commending Chief Justice Carrico for his service on the Supreme Court of Virginia and giving him the singular title of "Chief Justice of Virginia."

In 1992, the Criminal Law Section of the Virginia State Bar established the Harry L. Carrico Professionalism Award, in honor of Justice Carrico's longtime efforts to encourage professionalism among members of the bar. The award recognizes an individual who has made a unique contribution to the improvement of the criminal justice system.

#### Lying in State

The late former Chief Justice Harry Lee Carrico will lie in state in the Rotunda of the State Capitol on Wednesday and Thursday, January 30 and 31, 2013, where members of the public are invited to pay their final respects.

Wednesday, January 30, 2013 (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)  
Thursday, January 31, 2013 (8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.)  
Virginia State Capitol  
Capitol Square  
Richmond, Virginia

#### Funeral Service

A funeral service will be held at the Henry M. Cannon Memorial Chapel at the University of Richmond on Friday, February 1, 2013, at 10:00 a.m. A private burial will follow.