Dedication

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January 31, 2003 saw the retirement of Chief Justice Harry L. Carrico from the Supreme Court of Virginia. Senior Justice Carrico became a member of the supreme court on January 30, 1961. He was named Chief Justice of the court on February 1, 1981. Remarkably, he is both the longest serving chief justice in the history of the court and the longest serving member since the reorganization of the court in 1788.

Senior Justice Carrico received his Juris Doctor from George Washington University in 1942. He began his career as a judge in the Trial Justice Court (now General District Court), where he served from 1943 to 1951, with time out for service in the United States Naval Reserve during World War II. Senior Justice Carrico was in private practice from 1951 to 1956. He returned to the judiciary in 1956, serving as a judge in the Sixteenth Judicial Circuit until 1961.

Aside from his commitment to the Supreme Court of Virginia, Senior Justice Carrico has been a member of the Judicial Council of Virginia since 1970, serving as Chairman of the Council from 1981 to 2003. He also served as President of the Conference of Chief Justices from 1989 to 1990; Chairman of the National Center for State Courts from 1989 to 1990; and as Co-Chairman for the National Judicial Council of State and Federal Courts from 1991 to 1997. In addition, he was a member of the Committee on Federal-State Jurisdiction for the Judicial Conference of the United States from 1987 to 1991.

Senior Justice Carrico’s career on the bench has been marked by both his commitment to professional excellence and independence. His is a life spent in devotion to the law. Senior Justice Carrico’s standard of excellence is a goal which all of us should harbor. It is with great pride that the Law Review dedicates the 2004 Allen Chair issue to such an exemplary gentleman.

Jaime L. Henshaw
Allen Chair Editor