



**Taking Time...**

**to Honor AAML Members  
Who Have Passed**

# AAML Members / Deceased Since November 1, 2013

| No. | Name                | Chapter                     |
|-----|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1   | Melvyn B. Frumkes   | Florida Chapter             |
| 2   | Jonathan E. Johnson | Southern California Chapter |
| 3   | Robert J. Kates     | Massachusetts Chapter       |
| 4   | Scott C. Colky      | Illinois Chapter            |
| 5   | John F. Mills       | Michigan Chapter            |
| 6   | James M. Ecker      | Pennsylvania Chapter        |
| 7   | George S. Stern     | Georgia Chapter             |
| 8   | Charles P. Todt     | Missouri Chapter            |
| 9   | Howard M. Goldsmith | Pennsylvania Chapter        |







## MEL FRUMKES - MEMORIES OF MY FRIEND

April 15, 2014. The news of Mel's passing was how my morning started. My day is profoundly sad, a sadness that I think will last a long time.

It is hard to imagine our world without Mel, his booming voice, his infectious laughter, his smiling face.

The words of Guy and Jimmy say so much for all of us - time to think about our mortality and what we have done, and do, with our lives.

Mel was a great friend, there when you needed him, a great lawyer, strategist and tactician, wise and always ready to help a friend or anyone who sought his vast knowledge of tax law and humanity.

## MEL FRUMKES - MEMORIES OF MY FRIEND (Cont'd)

Mel was a bigger than life figure, he kept going like the Energizer Bunny - take heed, my friends. Let much of what we learned from knowing Mel be a guide for our future conduct.

*Steve Kolodny*



## GEORGE STERN - MEMORIES OF MY FRIEND

I had the great privilege of knowing GEORGE for most of the 48 years of my legal career. I have known many people, some wonderful, some nice, some not so nice - but there was only one GEORGE. I met GEORGE in the ABA, before I attended my first AAML meeting in Chicago.



Even though we knew each other, as did most of the people who became members of the AAML after GEORGE. GEORGE was always there, with his booming voice and friendly smile on his face, welcoming all the new people to AAML and greeting his old friends. GEORGE never met a person he did not like and become friends with very quickly.

GEORGE did not need a last name, everyone knew GEORGE, I have never known a person who did not like GEORGE.

I had the wonderful experience of being co-counsel and trying a case with GEORGE, each of us doing something to advance the interests of our client.

## GEORGE STERN - MEMORIES OF MY FRIEND (Cont'd)

GEORGE was a very good lawyer, a unique individual who possessed all the skills and instincts of a good trial lawyer but also had that kind, gentle side that evoked the spirit of cooperation, and desire to achieve a fair result, in the opposition - the traits of the perfect lawyer. GEORGE was the consummate gentleman and truly a lawyer's lawyer.

While being that perfect lawyer and gentleman, most importantly, GEORGE was all about family and friends. GEORGE'S love of Eva, then Margie after Eva's sudden and tragic passing, was legendary and a model for all of us to follow. GEORGE'S love of his children and grandchildren was inspiring to see, again a model for all of us. GEORGE was a people person, GEORGE was our person, GEORGE was Margie's person. Margie was GEORGE'S person. We were GEORGE'S people, but none of us supplanted his Margie, his children and his grandchildren.

GEORGE was the complete package, I am quite sure I have never known, and pretty sure I will never know, anyone as wonderful as him in every single way.

## GEORGE STERN - MEMORIES OF MY FRIEND (Cont'd)

While we are all very sad about GEORGE passing on to another place, in some ways we have to be not sad that his time had come. His life was no longer what it was, he was in pain and a lot of discomfort, he was suffering in so many different ways, it really was time for it to end, for GEORGE to be at peace, for GEORGE not to have to try so hard to make people think that he was still OK, still able to get along, that he would be back as good as in the old days. GEORGE'S spirit and core values would not allow him to think in any other way, it was our time to let him go, to let him be at peace, to let him be pain free, to suffer our grief in his passing rather than watch him endure his pain and suffering, always trying to keep a strong face for all of us, despite what it really was like for him to maintain his game face for us. It is our time to celebrate his life, it was as full and rich as anyone could every ask for.

The Lord will most certainly grant GEORGE all that is good and wonderful in wherever it is that his essence goes, there could be no more deserving person who ever ascended into the next life.

***Stephen Kolodny***