

TRIBUTES

JUDGE ALBERT W. COFFRIN

The Honorable James S. Holden*

To remember Al Coffrin is to be inspired by his dedication to his family, to his country, and to the law. The fabric of his life is enriched by the distinguished service he brought into the lives of others. Each of us has been enriched in different ways, whether by his example, by the strength of his character, or by the fruits of his efforts.

Through our friendship these past twenty years, I can appreciate his service as an officer of the United States Navy aboard a destroyer in the frigid waters of the North Atlantic on anti-submarine duty. I have learned of his past stewardship as a trustee of his alma mater, Middlebury College, and of his contribution to the solution of administrative problems that beset small New England colleges some years ago.

His appointment to the federal court marked the beginning of one of the richest and most rewarding associations of my lifetime. But far more important than personal gratitude is the quality of judicial service he gave so abundantly to the free men and women of Vermont. In recognition of this, his industry and judicial competence were frequently requested by other jurisdictions and circuit courts of appeal. These assignments added further lustre to the career of this gifted judge.

The light generated by his life will continue to illumine the way for all who came within its radiance, not only for today, but for tomorrow and beyond.

* Senior Judge, United States District Court, District of Vermont.

