

John Spears Ellett II



ELLETT, John Spears II, 86, of Charlottesville, Virginia, passed away December 22, 2009. Mr. Ellett was born September 17, 1923, in Richmond, Virginia. He graduated from St. Christopher's School where he was a member of the tennis team. As well as an avid tennis player, he was also an accomplished equestrian. Before [World War II](#), he attended Virginia Military Institute as part of the cavalry. After serving in the armed forces in World War II, he graduated from the University of Virginia where he received a BA in Civil Engineering in 1948 and a JD Degree in 1957, and was admitted to the Virginia Bar in the same year. He also received a Masters in Economics in 1961 from the University of Virginia and a PhD in Taxation from the University of North Carolina in 1969. The early years of his career were spent working with the family business, Virginia Carolina Hardware Company in Richmond, Virginia, the Musselman & Drysdale firm in Charlottesville, Virginia, Washington and Lee University, and with the [University of Florida](#). He was a professor of taxation at the University of New Orleans and Professor Emeritus after 1994. He was a Certified Public Accountant in Virginia and Louisiana. He was involved with the University of New Orleans Oil and Gas Accounting Conference, Energy Accounting and Tax Conference, and Estate Planning Seminar.

He was a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, American Accounting Association, American Association of Attorney-CPAs, the Virginia Society of CPAs, Society of Louisiana CPAs, and the Virginia Bar Association. His professional passion was teaching. He was honored in 2007 by his former students who were past-presidents of the Society of Attorney-CPAs for his inspirational instruction and other contributions to their professional careers.

Mr. Ellett was a devoted and loving husband and father, respected by family, friends, students and colleagues. He had a wonderful sense of humor and always loved life. Mr. Ellett was predeceased by his wife, Mary Ball Saunders Ruffin Ellett; his parents, Henry Guerrant Ellett and Elizabeth Firmstone Maxwell Ellett; brother, Henry Guerrant Ellett Jr.; sister, Mary Maxwell Ellett Harrison; and daughter, Susan Harrison Ellett. He is survived by five of his children, John Spears Ellett III and his wife, Jennifer Keys Stewart, Mary Ball Ellett Markow and her husband, Gregory D. Markow, Elizabeth Ellett Burgoyne and her husband, Walter B. Burgoyne, Martha Ruffin Ellett, and Henry Maxwell Ellett and his wife, Lori Martin Ellett. He is also survived by three grandchildren, Mary Ball Ruffin Markow, Julia Saunders Markow and Anne Maxwell Ruffin Ellett. In addition, he is survived by a brother, D Maxwell Ellett and his wife, Ruth Ellett, of Albuquerque, New Mexico; many nieces and nephews, and a devoted friend of the family, Camelia White.

A memorial service will be held at 4 p.m. on Monday, December 28, 2009 at the Central Chapel of Bennett Funeral Home, 3215 Cutshaw Avenue in Richmond. Burial will be private at Westover Church in Charles City County. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made in memory of John S. Ellett II to Hospice of the Piedmont, 675 Peter Jefferson Parkway, Suite 300, Charlottesville, Va. 22911 or to [Alzheimer's Association](#) of Central & Western Virginia, 674 Hillsdale Drive, Suite 1, Charlottesville, Va. 22901-1799.

Published in Richmond Times-Dispatch from December 26 to December 27, 2009