



Fayrell Furr Jr.

January 19, 1943 - April 3, 2025

Olin Fayrell Furr, Jr., 82, passed away peacefully at his home on the Waccamaw River in Conway, South Carolina on April 3, 2025. Born in Clinton, South Carolina in 1943 to Helen Osborne and Olin Fayrell Furr, Sr., Fayrell was the first child in the Furr family to graduate from college, majoring in political science and history at the University of South Carolina. Following his graduation in 1965, he attended the University of South Carolina School of Law. Fayrell was drafted into the U.S. Army six days after his graduation and had to request a deferment to take the Bar exam.

After passing the Bar exam, Fayrell was sent to basic training in Fort Dix, NJ, and later transferred to Fort Leonard Wood, MO, to train to be a combat engineer. He later applied to the JAG Corps and was transferred back to Fort Dix, eventually serving as a Captain. His first case as a lawyer was representing Tom Catlow, a prisoner in Fort Dix who rioted in opposition to his conditions of confinement. Fayrell's arguments at trial that Catlow was too young to consent to his forced enlistment were later successfully raised on appeal, resulting in binding case law that Miranda rights applied to interrogations of enlisted soldiers.

Fayrell was sent to Vietnam in 1969, serving as a JAG Officer in Saigon, where he lived with his wife, Ann, who worked for the Salvation Army. Fayrell processed foreign claims, flying by plane and helicopter to villages around

South Vietnam paying claims for property damaged in fighting. His largest processed claim for a destroyed ammunition dump that damaged nearby villages was so large it required the approval of Congress. He was awarded the Bronze Campaign Star for service in combat conditions.

After returning to Columbia, SC and his discharge from the Army, Fayrell practiced law in a firm with Kermit King, which eventually became King & Furr. Fayrell and Ann's only daughter, Shannon, was born in 1975, and they lived in Columbia. Fayrell began working on medical malpractice cases early in his career, losing his first several cases. He founded the Law Office of Fayrell Furr, Jr. in 1979, and after losing two more jury trials, won a \$6 million verdict in 1982. At the time, this was the largest jury verdict in the history of South Carolina. In 1983, Fayrell married Karole Jensen and moved to Myrtle Beach, opening the second office of his newly formed law firm Furr & Henshaw.

Fayrell was a legend in the legal community. He served as the president of the South Carolina Trial Lawyers Association—now the SC Association for Justice (SCAJ)—from 1979-80 and remained active in the organization until his retirement from the practice of law in 2023. He was awarded the American Association for Justice Lifetime Achievement Award in 2011, the Southern Trial Lawyers Warhorse Award in 2010, and in 2023 the SCAJ created the O. Fayrell Furr, Jr., Champion of Justice Award in his honor.

He was a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates, and received the Jeter E. Rhodes Trial Lawyer of the Year Award in 2019. Fayrell was a fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers, was Board Certified as a Civil Trial Advocate by the National Board of Trial Advocates, and was Board Certified by the American Board of Professional Liability Attorneys. He was a guest lecturer to law students at the USC law school and was invited to lecture to doctors and perform mock depositions at MUSC. Fayrell was renowned for his dedication to his clients, his skilled advocacy in the courtroom, and his

willingness to serve as a mentor and advisor to other trial lawyers in South Carolina. He and his wife Karole dedicated countless hours of service to cases involving children in the foster care system in South Carolina, and their efforts resulted in greater accountability for vulnerable children in foster care.

Fayrell is predeceased by his parents; his sister, Ada Ann Freeman; and his son, Paul Furr. He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Karole Jensen; daughter Karolan Ohanesian (Glenn); daughter Shannon Bobertz (Jason); his grandchildren: Zack and Sam Ohanesian, Paul Holder, Kyle and Stormy Furr, and Sarah Bobertz; his brother Robert Furr (Sheila); and many nieces and nephews.

A visitation will be held at Goldfinch Funeral Home, Conway Chapel, on April 8, 2025 from noon to 2 p.m, with a funeral service immediately following. Internment at Southern Palms Memorial Gardens in North Myrtle Beach at 3:30 p.m. Fayrell will be buried with military honors.

In lieu of flowers, Fayrell has requested donations be made to the South Carolina Association for Justice at <https://www.scaj.com/>.

Please sign the online guest register at www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com

Goldfinch Funeral Home, Conway Chapel, is in charge of the arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Southern Palms Memorial Gardens

5000 Highway 17 South
North Myrtle Beach, SC 29582

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 8. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Goldfinch Funeral Home, Conway Chapel
606-610 Beaty Street
Conway, SC 29526

Funeral Service

APR 8. 2:00 PM (ET)

Goldfinch Funeral Home, Conway Chapel
606-610 Beaty Street
Conway, SC 29526

Interment

APR 8. 3:30 PM (ET)

Southern Palms Memorial Gardens
5000 Highway 17 South
North Myrtle Beach, SC 29582

Tribute Wall

SC

“ Both Farrell & Karole were very good to me long ago when I first moved to Myrtle Beach. I thought a lot of both of them. Such a fine man, you only had to be in his presence for a little while to know this.

Steven L Courtney - March 28 at 01:42 PM

VS

“ Valerie S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Fayrell Furr Jr..

Valerie S. - April 08, 2025 at 07:22 AM



“ Full Heart was purchased for the family of Fayrell Furr Jr..



April 07, 2025 at 06:40 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Fayrell Furr Jr..

April 07, 2025 at 06:40 PM

MJ

“ Fayrell's was truly a life well lived. He loved being a lawyer and fighting and winning hard cases for his clients. We are all better people for having known and admired him.

M. Dawes Cooke, Jr. - April 07, 2025 at 06:38 PM

IJ

“*Fayrell and I were law school classmates. Our friendship was enduring. He was not only an outstanding lawyer, he was a loyal friend. I share in his loss.*

I.S. Leevy Johnson

I S Leevy Johnson - April 07, 2025 at 06:21 PM



“*Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Fayrell Furr Jr..*



April 07, 2025 at 06:02 PM

KA

“*Our sincere condolences for the loss of your loved one. May fond memories and earnest prayer bring comfort for family and friends at this time.*

Isaiah 41:13

Kathryn - April 07, 2025 at 05:31 PM

RY

“*Fayrell was an accomplished trial lawyer and friend. We first tangled in med mal cases, he for the Plaintiff and me for the Defendant. Karole would fly us to depositions of experts from Myrtle Beach and we became friends. That friendship continued well after I retired from the trial bar . I send my condolences to his family. He will be missed by many .*

Rutledge Young. Charleston , SC

Rutledge Young - April 07, 2025 at 05:30 PM

LL

“ Love you, The Ladies purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Fayrell Furr Jr..



Love you, The Ladies - April 07, 2025 at 04:10 PM

TF

“ The Peschong family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Fayrell Furr Jr..



The Peschong family - April 07, 2025 at 03:48 PM

TF

“ The Peschong family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Fayrell Furr Jr..

The Peschong family - April 07, 2025 at 03:48 PM

TJ

“ The South Carolina Assoc for Justice purchased the Lily and Rose Tribute Spray for the family of Fayrell Furr Jr..



The South Carolina Assoc for Justice - April 07, 2025 at 11:17 AM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Fayrell Furr Jr..*



April 07, 2025 at 09:07 AM



“ *Fayrell was a wonderful attorney and an amazing person. He was also there for me when I worked at the SC Trial Lawyers Association. I and many others were fortunate to be able to work with (and for) him in promoting a better SC. Coretta Bedsole*

Coretta Bedsole - April 06, 2025 at 12:32 PM



“ *J E and Martha Buchanan purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Fayrell Furr Jr..*



J E and Martha Buchanan - April 06, 2025 at 12:24 PM



“ *J E and Martha Buchanan planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Fayrell Furr Jr..*

J E and Martha Buchanan - April 06, 2025 at 12:24 PM

BM

“*Karole and Family, I am so sorry to hear of Fayerll's passing. He was a good and kind man and helped many people thru difficult time. I will never forget what he did to help me. May God give all of you peace and comfort during this difficult time in your lives. Bill Morrison & Eula, Greenwood, SC*

Bill Morrison - April 05, 2025 at 08:40 PM

KJ

“*I have to add the events of special day Fayrell and I had on the day of his passing which gave me such peace. Fayrell had been ready to 'go' for some time and made it clear that he did not want to be in pain. On that day, he had no pain what so ever. His breathing was easier, overall. No cough. He was able to get morphine every two hours, if needed. He never asked for any. During the afternoon, his heart went into on the low end of afib, dipping as low as 42, but mostly in the 55 range; while his oxygen hung around 77. Nurse gave him morphine to try to regulate his afib. but he never asked nor needed any for pain, which helped keep his thinking clear. He was scheduled to get a hospital bed. He asked to get in it. His caregiver, Jenna, myself and the bed installer, helped get him to the bed. Backing Fayrell onto the side. He wasn't on it very good and began to slide off that air mattress very slowly while saying to me to 'hold his hand' I moved my hand to his as he slide off the bed as he passed. . . .it was such a beautiful, special moment for us. I am thankful he wasn't hurting at all, he was at peace and I was there, holding his hand. Karole*

Karole Jensen - April 05, 2025 at 05:51 PM

LS

“ *May You Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory* 🙏
✝️



Lyn Snyder - April 05, 2025 at 03:24 PM

JC

“ *I knew Farrell through the Southern Trial Lawyers as I was executive director for 19 years. It was people like Farrell that kept me there that long. He was a great person and Gail and I feel honored to have known Farrell and Karole. Our prayers go out to Karole and the family. God speed Farrell. Jody and Gail Campbell*

Jody Campbell - April 05, 2025 at 03:07 PM

AV

“ *Andrea Vaughan purchased the Simply Elegant S pathiphyllum for the family of Fayrell Furr Jr..*



Andrea Vaughan - April 05, 2025 at 01:33 PM

KJ

“ *Fayrell was a passionate advocate for civil rights and was a great person! God bless!*

Kent Jensen - April 05, 2025 at 01:06 PM



“ A grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Fayrell Furr Jr..

April 05, 2025 at 10:00 AM



“ Bryan J. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Fayrell Furr Jr..

Bryan J. - April 05, 2025 at 09:37 AM



“ I had the opportunity to be the Court Reporter in a lot of Mr. Furr's Medical Mal cases when he was practicing in Richland County. He was a great advocate for his clients. Sending prayers to the family.

Robbie Koon DeFreese - April 04, 2025 at 05:35 PM



“ Fayrell was such an amazing man, with a great sense of humor. He was the smartest and most interesting man I had ever met. Yet very loving and supportive. Kind, gentle and sensitive. He opened up my world to such great possibilities with his openness to all I could be and wanted to become. He passed with clearness, without pain, holding my hand with love. It was peaceful and beautiful. I am thankful and grateful for him and his love throughout our 42 years of marriage. Karole Jensen

Karole Jensen - April 04, 2025 at 04:43 PM

KS

Fayrell certainly leaves a positive mark on the world he touched. We were fortunate to be a small part of that world. His was even the first household to acquire a microwave oven - impressing the neighborhood with such courage!!!! We have great memories of friendship.

Kit Smith - April 05, 2025 at 09:40 AM

BS

Fayrell and Karole were always there to help whenever and where ever needed.

They both were able to see beauty and hope where others could only see hopelessness and despair. He was a friend to the friendless, and advocate for the penniless and always had a smile and a twinkle in his eye for those who needed encouragement.

Billie Sherengos - April 05, 2025 at 03:26 PM

KN

I am so sorry to hear of Fayrell's passing. I worked as one of his paralegals for over 3 years and he was one of the best bosses I have ever had. He was a man a great integrity and had a wonderful sense of humor.

Karen Nissen - April 07, 2025 at 02:21 PM

MN

I got to know Fayrell when he supported my campaign for Senate in 2008, but I claimed him as family when I got to know and adore Karole - the perfect partner for this iconic man. When we'd go to conferences, everyone seemed to want to be in Fayrell's orbit bc he was a legendary trial lawyer, but he always opted for quiet dinners with Karole. He adored his wife and I noticed that before I ever really knew him. Among many other accomplishments, he and Karole together changed the law to establish a private right of action again DSS after so many children had died in their custody. She was a human rights activist and Fayrell was her lawyer. And together through their work, they have changed the lives of countless children in SC. Having lost my own parents at a relatively young age, I have been so lucky to love and be loved by parental figures like Fayrell and Karole. I am lifting up Karole and his family as they find a new normal in a world without his wonderful light and energy.

Mandy Powers Norrell - April 08, 2025 at 07:48 AM

TP

*Fayrell grew up close to my hometown- in Clinton and we knew each other for 50 years. My dad had been his dad's lawyer- he always reminded me of that bond, and I always looked up to him . When I was a new lawyer, Fayrell gave me advice a time or two- he was very astute even then . Always friendly and generous with his time . Not just a great lawyer, but a great person as well.
My day always brightened when I ran into Fayrell.*

Tom Pope

Thomas Pope - April 08, 2025 at 08:57 AM