

Shumaker Alumni



Ed Emerson

Retired

“Practicing in a private law firm gave me exposure to a never-ending variety of interesting people and issues.”

Q: What is your current position and company?

A I retired December 31, 2018 after 52 years as a “Lifer” at Shumaker. I think I was #14 on the traditional letterhead when I joined the firm in Toledo in 1966. The Columbus Office provided a home for my last nine years of practice and an opportunity to participate in the lives of my children and grandchildren living in the area.

Q: What was your practice area at Shumaker?

A As was the custom in the 1960's, I learned from assisting our senior lawyers (Alan Loop, Jack Kendrick, Frank Gallagher, Greg Alexander, et. al.) in whatever they were doing. The firm's needs found me doing a lot of trusts and estates, corporate, and real estate. A project to separately incorporate our Catholic hospital clients led to doing the then new hospital revenue bond financing of new hospital construction driven by the cost reimbursement nature of the new Medicare law. Our Corporate Health Care practice, a new specialty, grew out of this work.

Q: What is your favorite Shumaker memory?

A During my first 25 years, the firm hosted an intimate, formal dinner to celebrate the end of the year. Driving to and from some of those dinners with the Tuschman's and Gertner's was special.

Q: What did you enjoy most about your career?

A I was blessed to work daily with Shumaker's lawyers and staff who became lifelong friends. Moreover, our clients were by and large interesting and professional to work with and many became close friends.

Q: What is the best advice you can give a new attorney?

A Be a good listener to your firm lawyers, staff, and most importantly, your clients. Make it easy for them to share what is important or amusing to them and bring a sense of humor to your work and relationships. Bringing work to your partners and associates will best advance your and the firm's success.

Q: What news would you like to share about your personal or professional life?

A For my 81st birthday this past September, I received a new aortic valve and a repaired section of my ascending aorta. When told it should be good for at least 20 years, I said, “OK and I look forward to hiking in the Santa Rita Mountains near our Arizona winter home.”

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