# L. Henry Gissel, Jr.

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# Family

Born in Houston, Texas Married former Jo Claire Jones of Shreveport, Louisiana Three children - two daughters (ages 51 and 48) and one son (age 45) Four grandchildren – three granddaughters and one grandson (ages 9-15)

# **Educational Background**

Graduated from St. John's School, Houston, Texas 1954, with honors

Graduated Rice Institute, B.A., 1958, with honors; Phi Beta Kappa; President, Will Rice College; Student Association Treasurer; Student Council; Outstanding Senior

Graduated magna cum laude from S.M.U., L.L.B., 1961. Selected to Order of the Woolsack (now Order of the Coif) Attended Georgetown University in Washington D. C., post graduate courses in taxation.

## **Professional Activities**

Now a Consultant to Wilmington Trust Company of Wilmington, Delaware, after 43 years of law practice at the same firm. Retired Senior Partner at Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P., Houston, Texas, and former Chairman (or Co-Chairman) of the Trusts and Estates Department of such firm (1977-1997). Member of Houston Bar, Texas Bar and American Bar Associations. Chairman (1988-89); former member of the Council (1981-1990, 1994-1997) of the Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section of American Bar Association, and such Section's Delegate to the American Bar Association House of Delegates (1994-1997). Member of Tax Section of American Bar Association. Active duty ending as Captain, U.S. Army, Judge Advocate General's Corps (1961-1963). Past Chairman of Probate and Trust Law Committee of Houston Bar Association. Fellow, Past President, and Regent Emeritus of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel ("ACTEC," formerly known as the American College of Probate Counsel or "ACPC"); former member of ACTEC Executive Committee; former Chairman of the ACPC Editorial Board and former Editor of Probate Notes. Member and Past President of Houston Estate and Financial Forum. Past President of National Association of Estate Planning Councils ("NAEPC", now known as the National Association of Estate Planners and Councils). Member of the Houston Business and Estate Planning Council. Former Academician and former member of the Executive Council of the International Academy of Estate and Trust Law. Board Certified, Estate Planning and Probate Law, Texas Board of Legal Specialization. Author and frequent lecturer on probate, trust, estate planning and tax law subjects at the local, state and national levels, having appeared at programs sponsored by, among others, ABA, ACTEC, AICPA, ALI-ABA, the American Institute on Federal Taxation, the Southern Federal Tax Institute, the UCLA-CEB Tax Institute, the Southwestern Legal Foundation, the Texas Tax Institute, the Tulane Tax Institute, Southern Methodist University School of Law, University of Miami Estate Planning Institute, and Washington State Bar Association/Seattle EPC Estate Planning Seminar.

## **Professional Honors**

One of a very small number of lawyers who have been listed in each of the first 25 editions of *The Best Lawyers in America* in the Trusts and Estates category (reportedly, one of less than 1400 lawyers in the U.S. who have been listed in each of the first 25 editions in all categories through 2008). One of three Texans named among the best 45 estate planning lawyers in the United States in the August, 1998 issue of *Town & Country Magazine*. Currently listed in *Who's Who in America* and W*ho's Who in America Law*. Recipient of a 1999 Rice Distinguished Alumni Award. In the 2003 *Texas Monthly Peer Review*, was named a Texas Superlawyer in the Estate Planning/Trust category and also named one of the top 100 Texas Superlawyers in the Houston region 2003. Named again as a Texas Superlawyer in 2004 and 2005. Recipient of the 2004 Houston Bar Association Probate, Trusts and Estate Section Distinguished Service Award. Recipient of the 2007 Distinguished Alumnus Award, St. John's School. Elected into the Estate Planning Hall of Fame® and Honored as an Accredited Estate Planner® (Distinguished) by the National Association of Estate Planners & Councils in November, 2011. Recipient of NAEPC's Hartman Axley Lifetime Service Award in November, 2013.

#### **Educational Background**

Mr. Gissel received a B.A., with honors, in 1958 from Rice University, where he was a member of Phi Beta Kappa. He received an LL.B., *magna cum laude*, in 1961 from Southern Methodist University School of Law where he was a member of Phi Alpha Delta and was selected to the Order of the Woolsack, a predecessor to the Order of the Coif. He was admitted to practice law in Texas in 1961.

#### **Civic Involvement**

Mr. Gissel is a member of the River Oaks Country Club and the Forest Club; Vice-President and Director of the ACTEC Foundation; a former trustee and secretary of St. John's School; a past president of the Alumni Association of St. John's School; a former member of the Vestry of St. Martin's Episcopal Church; a former executive board member and president of the Association of Rice Alumni; director of the Retina Research Foundation; former director of the Houston Alzheimer's Association; and past president of the Forest Club.