



Claude E. Hitchcock III

March 4, 1943 - February 15, 2025

Claude Edward Hitchcock III was born on March 4, 1943, to Ruth Virginia (Henry) Hitchcock and Claude Edward Hitchcock in Baltimore, Maryland. He passed away peacefully on February 15, 2025.

He attended Baltimore City Public Schools and graduated from Douglas High School in 1961. As a child, he spent many summers in Middlesex County, Virginia, with his maternal grandparents, Lloyd and Cleon Henry, and relatives in the area.

He pursued a lifetime of athletic interests that began as a youngster at the Druid Hill YMCA in Baltimore where he developed his passion for boxing and swimming. For several summers, he worked as a lifeguard at the Druid Hill Park colored swimming pool. He also enjoyed playing tennis. A chance meeting with Morgan State University's Football Coach, Earl Banks, while playing football at Druid Hill Park led to a football scholarship. For nine years he was a long-distance runner, participated in several marathons and belonged to a Baltimore running club. He also achieved a second-degree black belt in Shorin Ji Ryu.

Born with an innate passion for justice and history, Claude Edward earned his Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts in History from Morgan State College (University), graduating in 1965 and 1969, respectively. He went on to earn his

Juris Doctor from the University of Maryland School of Law in 1977, setting the foundation for a remarkable legal career.

Claude Edward was a formidable presence in the legal and corporate world where he was a partner at Gordon, Feinblatt, Rothman, Hoffberger & Hollander, LLC, specializing in government advocacy, land use, contracts, real estate, and litigation. His career also included tenure at Tydings & Rosenberg, LLP; Frank, Bernstein, Conaway & Goldman; Russell & Thompson and Piper & Marbury. Previous positions included a Baltimore District Counsel and National Administrative Law Judge for the U.S. Small Business Administration, and he was a key representative for Exxon Company, USA, navigating complex governmental relations during the OPEC oil embargo of the 1970s. In 1995, then Mayor Kurt Schmoke appointed him to implement the 100 million dollar federally funded empowerment zone grants, recognizing his strengths in managing people and projects.

In 2009, he left private practice for the position of Special Assistant to the President for Governmental Affairs at Morgan State University, under President Dr. Earl Richardson and later under Dr. David Wilson. While in his position as a legislative lobbyist for Morgan, he was instrumental in securing millions of dollars toward the growth and development of the University.

As a member of the Maryland, Pennsylvania and Washington, D.C. Bars, Claude Edward was a relentless advocate for his clients and causes. He played a pivotal role in shaping legal and legislative outcomes, from land development projects to the legalization of Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC) in Maryland and Delaware. His expertise and leadership extended beyond the courtroom, making lasting impacts on businesses, communities, and governmental policies.

He was previously married to Jeanne Dougherty with whom he shared two

daughters, Connie Johnson, who predeceased him, and Heather Hitchcock.

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

MAR 7. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

March Life Tribute Center - Randallstown
5616 Old Court Rd
Windsor Mill, MD 21244
(410) 655-0110

Memorial Service

MAR 7. 11:00 AM (ET)

March Life Tribute Center - Randallstown
5616 Old Court Rd
Windsor Mill, MD 21244
(410) 655-0110

Tribute Wall



“ *March Life Tribute Centers - Laurel created a Webcast in memory of Claude E. Hitchcock III*



March Life Tribute Centers - March 03, 2025 at 05:07 PM

SK

“ *My favorite lawyer and a very good brother, may Allah forgive him all his sins and grant him a high place in paradise. Ameen*

Steven A. Kashif - March 07, 2025 at 08:59 AM

KP

“ *I would like to express my sincere condolences to the Hitchcock family. During Claude's tenure at Morgan State, I enjoyed stopping by his office to have a sit down chat about almost any topic. He was very intellengent and share with me stories of his ventures as a lawyer in the 60's.*

You will be missed by many. We thank God for the gift of time that you spent here on earth.

Kevin Peters, Colleague at Morgan State University

kevin peters - March 06, 2025 at 02:58 PM

EM

“ *Edna Mack lit a candle in memory of Claude E. Hitchcock III*

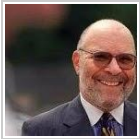


Edna Mack - March 05, 2025 at 11:35 PM

ZM

“ *Bobette, Heather.... I am so sorry about your huge loss. I just found out. My heart is broken. He was the most lovely man, and always made me laugh and feel that I was special as he did with everyone. I feel very blessed that he was a part of my life.*
Zoe Michal

Zoe Michal - March 05, 2025 at 04:20 PM



“ *I am very sorry for the loss of my friend Ed Hitchcock. He was a good man and valuable friend who always had a way of making me smile even when the matter was serious.*

Daniel Henson - March 03, 2025 at 11:40 PM

M(

“ *We the March Family and Staff wish to extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the passing of your loved one. Our prayers go out to you and your family in your time of loss. We know and understand that you have received many expressions of love, and we will continue to lift you up in prayer. May the memories you cherish of brighter and happier days help to ease your sorrow and comfort you always.*

March Life Tribute Center (Randallstown) - March 01, 2025 at 04:17 PM