James Helme Lincoln

(August 26, 1916 – July 23, 2011)



THE HONORABLE JUDGE JAMES HELME LINCOLN, age 94 of Harbor Beach, passed away Saturday, July 23, 2011 at his home on Lake Huron.

He was born on August 26, 1916 in Sand Beach Township, to the late Burr and Esther (Hoare) Lincoln. James and Mary F. Kimmerling (Kim) were united in marriage on June 21, 1941 in Washington, D.C.

During World War II, Jim served as a Merchant Marine. Jim was a public official for over thirty years. He granted over 30,000 adoptions as a Wayne County Judge. He was Attorney General Frank Murphy's assistant, and assisted Senator Blair Moody. Jim was a Prosecutor for Wayne County, He ran for Mayor of Detroit, was a councilman for seven years for Detroit, of which he was Chairman of the Wayne County Capital Improvement Committee. Jim served as President of the National Council of Juvenile Judges, he was appointed to the Michigan State Corrections Commission, was one of the founders and drivers behind the Frank Murphy Museum in Harbor Beach, and he also was an author, writing two books: 'The Anatomy of a Riot: A Detroit Judge's Report', and 'Fiery Trial'.

The James H. Lincoln Juvenile Hall of Justice is one of two courthouses in the State of Michigan to be named in honor of a judge. He lectured in over thirty states and many countries. The University of Michigan has volumes of paper records concerning James Lincoln, which can be found on the internet. Jim also played football and wrestled for the University of Michigan.

He is survived by his wife of over 70 years; Mary F. Kimmerling Lincoln (Kim), and their children: Edward Lincoln of Harbor Beach, Janet Lincoln and her husband David Paul Stoller of Prescott, AZ, Linda Lincoln and her husband Randall Olson of Arvada, CO, daughter-in-law Barbara Anderson of Munith, his grandchildren: Paul Stoller, David Lincoln, Rebecca Lincoln, Abigail Lincoln, and seven great grandchildren.

Jim was preceded in death by a son David Lincoln, grandson Philip Stoller and his siblings: General Arthur Lincoln, General Lawrence Lincoln, Philura Cook and Joyce Parker. Funeral Services for Judge James Lincoln will be Saturday, July 30, 2011 at 11 am in the Ramsey Funeral Home of Harbor Beach, with the Rev. Theresa Cutler officiating. Burial will follow in Rock Falls Cemetery. Visitation for Judge Lincoln will be Friday, July 29, 2011 from 3-8 pm in the funeral home.

Visitation on Saturday will begin at 10 am until time of services at 11 am. Pallbearers will be Edward B. Lincoln, Paul L. Stoller, David J. Lincoln, Rebecca V. Lincoln, Abigail J. Lincoln. Clark Lincoln, and Riley D. Stoller. Honorary Pallbearers will be The Honorable Judge David Harrington, The Honorable Judge Richard Knoblock, the Honorable Judge David Claubesch, David Paul Stoller, Randall Olson and Alphonse Murphy.

Memorials may be given to the Esther E. Lincoln Scholarship Fund through the Ramsey Funeral Home, 425 State Street, Harbor Beach, MI 48441.