



## Jeanne Parker

May 6, 1947 - May 19, 2026

Judge Jeanne Parker, 79, of Bell County, Texas, passed away May 19, 2026. Born May 6, 1947, in Norfolk, Virginia, Jeanne was a Navy “brat” who moved often in childhood and graduated from Victoria High School (TX) in 1965. Early in her career she broke ground as one of the first women landmen in Houston’s oil industry before returning to school. She earned a BFA from the University of Colorado in 1992 and a Juris Doctor from Baylor University School of Law in 1993, interning with the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Western District of Texas during her legal training. Shortly after law school, Jeanne joined the Bell County Attorney’s Office, beginning in the misdemeanor section and rising to Chief of the Juvenile Section. Just prior to her election to the bench she prosecuted Child Protective Services cases alongside investigators, demonstrating a deep commitment to protecting children. In private practice she spearheaded the Family Law and Criminal Law divisions at Dan Corbin & Associates (2005–2006). From 2006–2007 she served as a legal advisor to the Ministry of Interior Affairs in Afghanistan, working directly

in the Presidential  
Palace—where colleagues affectionately nicknamed her “Combat Barbie.”  
She also taught Criminal  
Justice at Temple College and constitutional and business law at the  
University of Central Texas in  
Killeen.

Jeanne lived for a time in Carmel, California, and later in Evergreen,  
Colorado, where she designed  
and built an 8,000sq ft Victorian home that was featured on the cover of  
Colorado Homes &  
Lifestyles in 1987. An accomplished artist and watercolorist, Jeanne’s  
paintings were frequently  
commissioned by friends and family; she traveled to study her craft and  
earned certifications in  
specialized genres. Gifted in interior design, she was a licensed decorator  
who ran a side business  
helping others beautify their homes.

Elected Judge of County Court at Law No. 1 in 2014 and reelected in 2018,  
Judge Parker served  
with distinction until her retirement in 2023. She was active on numerous  
boards and committees  
across Bell County and with the Republican Women’s Committee.

A devout and Godly woman, Jeanne lived by faith and often encouraged  
others with her refrain, “If  
God’s got me, who could be against me?” Remarkably strong and determined,  
she believed that  
whatever she set her mind to she could accomplish. Known for her quick, witty  
humor and generous  
spirit, Jeanne loved dancing, playing bridge, and delighting family with playful  
rounds of Mexican  
dominoes—often insisting on replaying a hand just for the fun of it. She was

deeply loved by her  
family and will be profoundly missed.

Jeanne was preceded in death by her father, James William Howard Sr.

("Bill"); her mother, Laura

Jean Dauphin; and her sister, Sheila Howard. She is survived by her daughter,  
Kelley Pierce;

granddaughter, Tyler Pierce; grandson, Alexander Pierce; and her brother,  
James William Howard

Jr. ("Bill"), his wife Patsy, and their children Amanda DeMuyne (husband Jeff)  
and Jacob Howard

(wife Megan), as well as numerous well loved relatives.

Photo caption for memorial/program: Judge Jeanne Parker — portrait on  
display at the Bell County

Courthouse (photo courtesy of family).