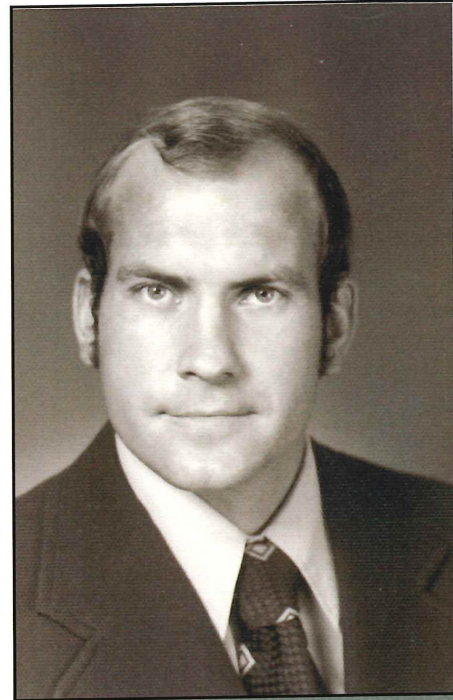


JOHN KARRH

JOHN KARRH WAS BORN TO THE LATE BARNEY AND LORENE KARRH ON DECEMBER 7TH, 1947. JOHN LOVED

growing up in his little hometown of Carbon Hill. This same love carried over to Carbon Hill High School and its athletics. John played football, baseball, basketball and participated in track and field. Because of his size, Coach Sherrill Smith allowed John to play varsity football in the 8th grade and his last three years he played for Coach L.C. Fowler. His favorite memory of his high school career was a game saving tackle in the 1964 game against Cordova. Cordova was about to score and possibly tie the game, but he burst through the line and held onto the ball carrier until help arrived from several teammates to preserve the 14-6 Bulldog victory. The second-best memory of his high school days was not from playing and winning games but was the fun he and his teammates had together. John's success on the field led him to be selected honorable mention all-state offensive lineman for the 1964 season and all-state for the 1965 season.



He was also selected to play in the State All Star football game held in Tuscaloosa. With these awards, several colleges noticed John's athletic talents. John was recruited and signed a football scholarship to Samford University in 1966. Samford started out very well with him playing and starting at center for the Bulldogs. The following preseason brought what every athlete fears and that was an injury. John suffered a devastating knee injury that not only ended his football career, but also could have threatened his ability to have a normal adulthood. With time and rehab, John began to play handball and competed and won the 1969 State Amateur Tournament. John continued his college studies at Samford and earned a B.A. degree in 1970. What most people would describe as misfortune led John into his pursuit and lifetime interest of helping others. John completed the Georgia State Policy Academy in 1971 and soon thereafter began his law degree at Cumberland School of Law. He graduated from Cumberland Law School in 1974 and furthered his law education with other degrees and areas of study from Nevada-Reno, Harvard, and Stanford Universities. John served as a County, District, and Circuit Judge within Tuscaloosa from 1976 until 1993. He also served as special circuit court judge for the State of Alabama and as a special justice for the Alabama Supreme Court. During the late 70's and early 80's, John got back into sports by becoming a sport official and also helping coach his children's team. He officiated AHSAA basketball, baseball, and football, as well, as private school and small collegiate women's basketball. John received numerous awards during his law career, but his best accomplishment was marrying his late wife, Janis. They have 3 very successful children in Jamie, John, and Joseph. Presently, John stays active with current events, his church, and swimming every morning.