



Judge Stanley Peele

Judge Stanley Peele was born into a family that owned and published a local newspaper so he knows about the power of the written word. It has been an essential part of his public service. He has become a master at expressing his passions, opinions and concerns about our society through his writings.

Judge Peele's life has been a series of personal steps that built an enviable public service career. He served as soldier on the front line in Korea in 1950-1951. He earned a law degree at UNC Law School. He worked as a lawyer in public practice for eleven years from 1959 to 1969.

He is 84 years old, was a judge for 47 years, and has been married for 62 years. He served 3 years as Chapel Hill Records Court Judge. He was appointed as District Court Judge in 1969. For over 7 years he was the only juvenile court judge in Orange and Chatham counties. This was his first opportunity to work with the troubled youth in these communities. It soon became a passion and he threw himself into working with and for these juveniles.

Judge Peele was the chief district court judge for Orange and Chatham Counties from 1977 to 1989. In 1989, he helped found Chatham County Together, a child mentoring program. He has been a big brother to over 40 children. He worked as a crisis counselor for Help Line for 12 years, from 1984 to 1995.

He helped found and guide a number of youth programs. Because of his devotion to this work, he helped start and run People For Youth, a Big Brother/Big Sister program, Orange and Chatham Counties, from 1980 to 1982. He was also one of the founders, directors, and volunteer mentors for Volunteers For Youth, a Big Brother - Big Sister program.

He has generally discouraged receiving any awards, but has accepted a few, including the State of North Carolina Juvenile Services Volunteer award and the Order of the Longleaf Pine -- twice.

Judge Peele was a columnist for the Chapel Hill Herald for approximately 20 years and still submits occasional newspaper columns. He gives inspirational talks at meetings and facilitates spiritual gatherings and meditations. He experiences the joy of visiting three nursing homes to talk with residents there.

He has written two books, A ***SIMPLE GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL HEALING*** and ***THE RIVER OF LIGHT*** (the latter contains spiritual articles). He also wrote a short book entitled ***WHAT I LEARNED FROM EDGAR CAYCE***. He has also written many legal articles, mainly on the NC death penalty, and numerous other articles, mostly on spiritual subjects.

It has been said that "Everyone who knows Stanley Peele knows that there is no one else quite like him."