

[From the Times-Tribune, May 15, 2016]

TRI-COUNTY PROFILES: LONDON ATTORNEY CONSIDERS HERSELF AN EDUCATOR IN ALL THINGS

(By Christina M. Bentley)

"As a lawyer, I still teach people," said Jane Winkler Dyche, Laurel County attorney and master commissioner, a position in which she assists the Laurel Circuit Court in the enforcement of judgments.

"I'm just teaching the jury, or I'm educating the judge in my version of the case," she said.

Dyche was raised by educators. Her father, Thomas Winkler, was a teacher and school administrator in the Bell County School System and her mother, Mildred, was a career nurse who, at the request of the Pineville Community Hospital, started the Pineville School for Practical Nursing, which was later absorbed into the Kentucky Community College System. Both the Winklers were WWII veterans—Mildred served as a nurse in the Women's Army Corps—and met when Thomas Winkler was being repatriated from his service in the Army Air Corps.

"They were incredible people," Dyche said. "I was very blessed to have parents who saw the importance of education . . . I think being the child of a forward-thinking woman, someone who actually started this hospital nursing program . . . very little I do could begin to be close to touching or hitting milestones like she did. I mean she was really very forward-thinking, and there was really the expectation of 'you need to do the best you can do.' They encouraged free thought and travel. They dragged us about a lot. That's something I think—that wanderlust, the opportunity to see things, new things, it's a huge world. I think sometimes I see that folks' vision is not as wide as it needs to be. It's a big world. It's a BIG world, and if we're too quick to close our eyes or our ears, we're going to miss out on so much."

Dyche herself has been very open to new opportunities in her life. Like her father, she trained as a teacher, getting a degree in home economics education from the University of Kentucky and going on to work for 13 years with the Cooperative Extension Service as an area extension agent for foods and nutrition, a job in which her primary role was to train others.

"I was an area extension agent, which is really different (from being a county extension agent)," Dyche said. "I eventually actually worked from Harlan to Harrison (counties). I had no supervisory capacity, but I trained. I taught people how to teach. I taught the paraprofessionals how to teach the material to the low-income families, and to do that I made home visits with every single one of the assistants I taught twice a year, so I went in the homes with them . . . I think that's where we're losing things now. I think that there aren't enough people willing to say, 'Okay, if you want to change, how do we help you do that? Tell us what we need.' How do we make that happen? You can't do it by just giving people stuff. We've got to help people do with what they have."

She met her husband, London native and fellow attorney Robert Dyche, during her work with the Extension Service, and said that that's how she made her way to London. The couple have two children, Robert, who has an undergraduate degree from Centre College and an MBA from the University of Cincinnati and now works in Atlanta, and John, who is a 2016 graduate of Georgetown College. The elder Robert Dyche is a former district court judge and also served on the Court of Appeals. She said the law was something she, too, had always been interested in, so she took advantage of the opportunity granted her by the Extension Service to take study leave in 1992.

"I grew up in a little town where there were some good lawyers that I admired. It was something I wanted to do. Once Robbie got an 8-year term on the Supreme Court, our family had at least one steady job, and that gave me the freedom to try something new, and he was supportive in that. So I went back to UK and came home on weekends. It was an adventure," Dyche said.

She is now in her 21st year of practicing law.

"I love to practice law," she said, "It's very interesting. I think sometimes it's sort of like a muscle, you know—the more you use it the stronger it gets. And I think to some degree our energy is the same way. If you don't exercise, you don't feel like exercising. That's how I start my day: do my Bible reading and do my exercises. It's pretty simple."

Dyche's legal career has been very varied and has offered her opportunities to serve her profession outside the courtroom as well.

"I've had a chance to do a lot of different things. I practiced with a firm" when I first got out of law school "and I office-shared with a lot of more experienced lawyers because I didn't feel like, especially with a family, that I needed to be by myself, so there were other lawyers who were very instrumental in providing nurture to me during that time" and I had an opportunity to begin serving on the Kentucky Bar Association board of governors," she said.

Dyche was asked to take on the unexpired term of a departing board member and went on to serve as the president of the Kentucky Bar Association, shortly after her husband retired from the Court of Appeals and the two went into practice together, occupying as office space the house that Robert Dyche grew up in, which he and his siblings didn't want to part with after his parents' death.

"Robbie came here to practice law as I was beginning my president-elect and president duties with the KBA and he really made it possible for me to take the time that those volunteer positions take because you travel statewide," Dyche said. "And I had the opportunity to meet a lot of people and to preach the gospel of ethical lawyering. Also during that time, I served on the board of directors of the Kentucky Lawyers Mutual Insurance Company, a mutual insurance company formed by Kentucky lawyers to serve Kentucky lawyers for our professional responsibility, or professional malpractice, insurance, and that was very interesting. The things you learn!"

In addition to her service to the profession, Dyche has also spent most of her life as a dedicated volunteer to a number of causes, beginning with Kentucky Educational Television.

"(KET) was really my first big volunteer activity as a young bride coming to London, Kentucky," she said. "Leonard Press, who actually started KET, knew my father through Daddy's work with the school system. He could see how public television, especially educational television, could reach into the hills and hollows of southeastern Kentucky because it was such a challenge to bring educational material to people who really needed it, and it was during the time in the '60s of (the Work Experience and Training Program). KET could bring educational programs in where others could not, and my fascination with that program and with the television programs that were offered 'caught my eye as a young adult when they were looking for volunteers here in southeastern Kentucky. I had an opportunity to work for many years as a very active volunteer with them' I did a lot of Friends of KET activities and was president of that board and then served on their foundation board for a number of years as well, so I

guess that kind of got me hooked on how exciting volunteering can be."

Dyche also continues to support the Extension Service and Laurel County Public Library. She served on the Site-Based Councils of both North Laurel High School and London Elementary School when her children were students there.

"There's just all this stuff you get a chance to do if you keep your eyes open to opportunities to serve, and I think that's incredibly important that we keep our eyes open for those opportunities 'If people want to serve, if they want to volunteer, they will find something. There's something out there for you to do,'" she said.

Most recently, Dyche's spirit of community service has found its outlet in God's Pantry Food Bank.

"(God's Pantry) picks back up on my interest in people who are at risk nutritionally," Dyche said. "There are hungry people here, especially during the downturn in the economy. A number of years ago, I was contacted by representatives of God's Pantry Food Bank in Lexington, and just the other day, we had a 'Business After Hours' at our warehouse here in London that opened in December of 2013. Since July 1 of 2015, over 3 million pounds of food has been distributed from there. Last month, this warehouse distributed more than the Lexington one did. I'm all for God's Pantry. This is an agency that is five-star on Charity Navigator for the fifth or sixth year in a row. I think that's really important that people check to see what they're working on. You give them a dollar, they'll turn it into \$10 worth of food 'We're really excited that we continue to grow our agencies in this area.'"

Dyche sees the common thread between all of her activities, however, to be teaching people, and she said that is both the hardest and the most satisfying part of her work, whether it's in the classroom or the field, the courtroom or the boardroom.

"Teaching people things that they're unfamiliar with and explaining that something may not work out well. That's tough. That's really difficult," she said. "But I like the teaching bit, whether it's teaching about volunteer causes that benefit lots of people or explaining to a client a concept that is new to them. I like smart clients. I like to work with people who are interested in learning how this happened, why this happened, and how we go forward. We've been incredibly blessed to get to work with a lot of interesting folks over time. So I'm still a teacher."

For all her work and community service, however, Dyche still finds time to garden and cook, and she's a voracious reader. She also teaches mahjong to a group every week at the Laurel County Public Library.

Hers is a busy life, but she said she feels a responsibility to keep it that way.

"I think if God has blessed us—and I think God has blessed almost everyone—I think we in turn have the opportunity to give back," Dyche said. "God gives us all the same number of hours in a day. It's how we choose to use them."

REMEMBERING CLARISSA "T.C." FREEMAN

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to a distinguished Kentuckian who was a passionate advocate for and supporter of our Nation's military, especially the troops stationed at Kentucky's Fort Campbell and in the neighboring community of Hopkinsville, KY. Clarissa "T.C." Freeman, a woman so devoted to our men

and women in uniform that one chapter of the Association of the United States Army, AUSA, named an award after her, sadly passed away on May 19. She was 83 years old.

Freeman understood the importance of the men and women stationed at Fort Campbell and worked diligently to ensure that these servicemembers and her community got the recognition they deserved. Freeman was one of Kentucky's civilian aides to the Secretary of the Army since 2008, holding a ceremonial rank equal to a lieutenant general. However, her contributions to our servicemembers began long before that.

She first became involved as an AUSA volunteer as a young Army wife in Fort Hood, TX, welcoming her husband back home from his first tour of duty in Vietnam. Freeman felt her husband and others returning from Vietnam did not get the recognition and appreciation they deserved. T.C. was right about this, as she was about so many other important issues concerning our Nation's servicemembers.

She decided to do something about it personally. She took care of wounded soldiers. She coordinated welcome-home events. She advocated on behalf of Army families on housing and quality-of-life issues that affected them. The Freemans moved to Hopkinsville and took up the cause of soldiers at Fort Campbell after T.C.'s husband, Army COL Bobby Freeman, was named garrison commander at Fort Campbell.

T.C. Freeman's support for the 101st Airborne Division, headquartered at Fort Campbell, was crucial throughout the years, especially in 1985 when 248 soldiers died in an air crash in Newfoundland while returning from a peacekeeping mission.

In 2009, Freeman was among the first nine honored as a "champion" of Fort Campbell and saw her portrait installed in the division's headquarters building. She served as chapter president and board member of the Tennessee-Kentucky chapter of AUSA. She was also an honorary member of the 327th Infantry Regiment and the 160th Special Operations Aviation regiments and a distinguished member of the 502nd and 187th Infantry regiments.

T.C. and her husband, Bobby, raised two sons who served in the Persian Gulf and a daughter who was an Army wife. Elaine and I want to send our condolences to the Freeman family and to the many who knew and loved T.C. I am grateful for the long friendship I had with her, and I know she will be deeply missed—especially by the brave servicemembers she worked so hard to support and their families.

An area publication, the Kentucky New Era, recently published an article detailing T.C. Freeman's legacy. I ask unanimous consent that the article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Kentucky New Era, May 20, 2016]

T.C. FREEMAN, TIRELESS FORT CAMPBELL
ADVOCATE, DIES

(By Andrew Oppmann)

Clarissa "T.C." Freeman, known and honored by generals and privates alike as Fort Campbell's Mom for her devoted service and advocacy of the U.S. Army, died at 7 a.m. Thursday at Jennie Stuart Medical Center after a long illness. She was 83.

One of Kentucky's civilian aides to the secretary of the Army since 2008, Freeman battled pulmonary fibrosis for more than five years. However, despite the debilitating effects of the disease, her service to Fort Campbell rarely slowed.

Her husband, retired Army Col. Bobby Freeman, was a former garrison commander at Fort Campbell.

Funeral services will be at 3 p.m. Sunday at First United Methodist Church, Hopkinsville, and burial will be at 1 p.m. Monday at Kentucky Veterans Cemetery-West. Visitation will be from 4 until 8 p.m. Saturday at Hughart, Beard and Giles Funeral Home, Hopkinsville, and from 2 p.m. until the funeral hour at the church.

As a civilian aide to the Army secretary, Freeman held the ceremonial rank equal to a lieutenant general. She used her status as a platform to call attention to the service and sacrifice of the soldiers of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault).

Hopkinsville Mayor Carter Hendricks knew Freeman as a "tireless, tenacious and caring advocate" for Fort Campbell.

At welcome-home ceremonies, Freeman often was seen handing off her cell phone to a young soldier who didn't have family present but wanted to call home.

Freeman was on a Chamber of Commerce committee that hired Hendricks to be the military affairs director in 2004. She became a dear friend and supporter, he said.

No task was too small for Freeman, and she always followed through on her promises, the mayor said.

U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., said, "T.C. understood the importance of the men and women stationed at the Kentucky (post) and worked diligently to ensure that these service members and her community got the recognition they deserved."

At a 2013 ceremony honoring Freeman, retired Gen. Richard A. Cody, former post and division commander, said, "T.C. was an Army wife and Army mom and a model for everyone here. She made a difference in the life of me and my family."

In 2009, Freeman and her husband were among the first nine honored as Champions of Fort Campbell, and their portraits were installed on a wall inside the division's headquarters building.

She was a life member of the Association of the United States Army, serving as a regional president, as well as chapter president and board member of the Tennessee-Kentucky chapter. The chapter in 2013 named a brigade-level award for membership participation in her honor.

Freeman worked as an aide to former U.S. Sen. Jim Bunning and current U.S. Rep. Ed Whitfield and was a member of the Kentucky Military Affairs Commission.

She was an honorary member of the 327th Infantry Regiment and the 160th Special Operations Aviation regiments a distinguished member of the 502nd and 187th Infantry regiments.

As the wife of a decorated Vietnam aviator, and mother to two sons who served in the Persian Gulf and a daughter who was an Army wife, Freeman told an Army interviewer in 2009 that she knew what other spouses were going through when their husbands and wives were deployed.

"The first Army family I took care of was mine," she said.

Freeman first became involved as an AUSA volunteer at Fort Hood, Texas, as a young Army wife.

She told an Army journalist that when her husband returned from his first tour of duty in Vietnam, she was disappointed and saddened by the reception he received. She vowed to do something about it.

"They didn't understand how important our Army was," she said in a 2009 article. "I always feel the need to give something back to our soldiers and to their families."

And give back she did. She was involved in taking care of wounded soldiers. She planned welcome-home events. She tackled granular issues that troubled Army families, such as ID card and housing problems.

She hosted luncheons, consoled families in their grief and, as a champion of Fort Campbell, was a fierce advocate for funding of the post that straddles the Kentucky and Tennessee borders.

Cody, quoted by The Eagle Post in a 2013 article on the AUSA award named in her honor, said Freeman was diligent to greet soldiers as they returned or departed for duty overseas.

She would look around for a soldier who had no one waiting for him or her and would give him or her a hug and a thank you.

"When they (the soldier's family) can't, I stand in for them," she said.

Maj. Gen. Jim Myles, at a 2009 ceremony covered by Army journalists, called Freeman "a national treasure and a hero."

When she was a VIP or special guest at an event, Myles said she would always divert the spotlight to the soldiers.

"I've watched CASAs like T.C. make a difference in soldiers' lives in ways green-suiters couldn't do," he said.

Cody, in the 2013 article, recalled how Freeman "wrapped her arms around this great division" after 248 soldiers from the 101st died in air crash at Gander, Newfoundland, while returning from a peacekeeping mission shortly before Christmas in 1985.

The Freemans moved to Hopkinsville when Col. Freeman was named garrison commander at Fort Campbell. They remained there after he retired from the Army.

Freeman's passion for the soldiers of Fort Campbell never ceased, even as her illness limited her mobility in recent months. She was active on social media and often sent out messages of support to the division while on bed rest.

"There is a lot that can be done to help our soldiers," she told the Army journalist in 2009. "There are no boundaries to what goodness one can contribute for the benefit of the soldiers."

TRIBUTE TO DR. HOUSHANG KHORRAM

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I wish to congratulate a distinguished Kentuckian who is an accomplished doctor and who works to save lives and heal the sick in eastern Kentucky. Dr. Houshang Khorram practiced as a pediatrician for 50 years at Appalachian Regional Healthcare in Middlesboro, KY, and he retired this past January after his five decades of service.

Dr. Khorram originally studied medicine in Iran, attending the Shiraz Medical Science University. He knew from the beginning of his medical career that he wanted to specialize in pediatrics. After taking pediatrics specialty classes in Iran, he came to America;