



Robert W. Dyche III

April 12, 1951 - April 15, 2026

The Honorable Robert W. Dyche III, who devoted his life to serving the people of Kentucky, passed from this life into eternal life on April 15, 2026, after a courageous battle with Parkinson's disease.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Jane Winkler Dyche, and his two sons, Robert IV and John William.

Born April 12, 1951, Judge Dyche was the son of the late Robert Jr. and Beulah "Boots" Dyche. He graduated from Centre College in 1972 and the University of Kentucky College of Law in 1975. He began his legal career in private practice in London with the firm of Allen and Bledsoe before opening his own office.

In January 1978, at just 26 years old, he was appointed as a trial commissioner and soon after became a district judge in Laurel and Knox Counties. In June 1986, he was appointed to the Kentucky Court of Appeals, where he served for twenty years until his retirement in June 2006. Over the course of his judicial career, he authored more than 2,000 opinions and participated in over more 3,500 cases. His professional activities include service on the Continuing Judicial Education Commission from 1992-2006, the Ethics Committee of the Kentucky Judiciary 1997-2002, and the Judicial Conduct Commission 2002-2006. After retirement from the bench, he joined

Jane in the practice of law at Dyche Law Office and remained active in the legal community, including as a member of the Kentucky Board of Bar Examiners.

Beyond his professional accomplishments, Judge Dyche was an avid gardener, devoted reader, world traveler, and patron of the arts.

Judge Dyche's life was a steady gift to the community he loved. He served on a number of local boards, including the Laurel County Public Library and St. Joseph-London Hospital. As chair of the library board, he helped lead the planning and construction of the new public library and took a particular interest in its design, helping to ensure it would stand as a place of pride and enlightenment for the community. During his time with the hospital, he was involved in the planning and construction of the new St Joseph-London facility. He was a University of Kentucky Fellow, honored with the "James Gugler Outstanding Trustee Award" as an outstanding library trustee, the Kentucky Public Library Association Lifetime Achievement Award, President, Kentucky Mountain Laurel Festival Association and the Laurel County Homecoming Lifetime Achievement Award. In addition, Senator Mitch McConnell honored Judge Dyche on the Senate floor upon his retirement from the Court of Appeals with remarks that were entered into the Congressional Record.

He is also survived by his sister, Paige Dyche Stevens of London; his brother, John David Dyche (Laura) of Louisville; and many cherished nieces, nephews, cousins, dear friends, and colleagues.

Visiting hours with the family will be Saturday, April 18, at 6 PM at House Rawlings Funeral Home. A service celebrating his life will be held at First United Methodist Church of London on April 19 with visitation at 1 PM and the service at 2 PM. Burial will follow at A.R. Dyche Cemetery, with a reception following at the church.

The family requests that expressions of sympathy be made to the London
Laurel County Chamber of Commerce Foundation, Dolly Parton Imagination
Library or a good cause of your choice.

Previous Events

Visitation

APR **18**. 6:00 PM (ET)

House-Rawlings Funeral Home
510 East 4th Street
London, KY 40741
(606) 864-2158
info@houserawlings.com
<https://houserawlings.com>

Celebration of Life Service

APR **19**. 2:00 PM (ET)

First United Methodist Church Of London
301 W. 5th St.
London, KY 40741

Tribute Wall

DP

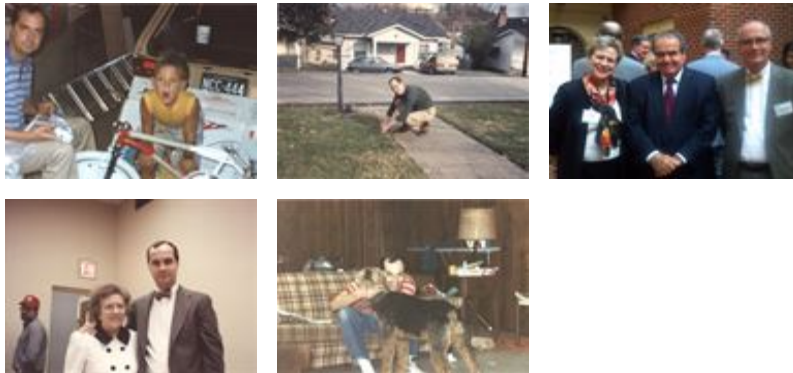
“ Too few years I spent with Robbie. But they were action packed. I only lived in London for the 4 years of high school. Robbie and I became close friends, we got our first electric guitars together and formed a band along with Glen Little. In addition were the many hours playing golf, football, baseball sandlot style. My life took me a different direction, but I am happy to say that I was fortunate to see Robbie again on two occasions; one was as recent as 2 years ago. God bless you my friend and may you know eternal peace free from pain and distress.

Donny

Don Perkinson - May 04 at 02:48 PM



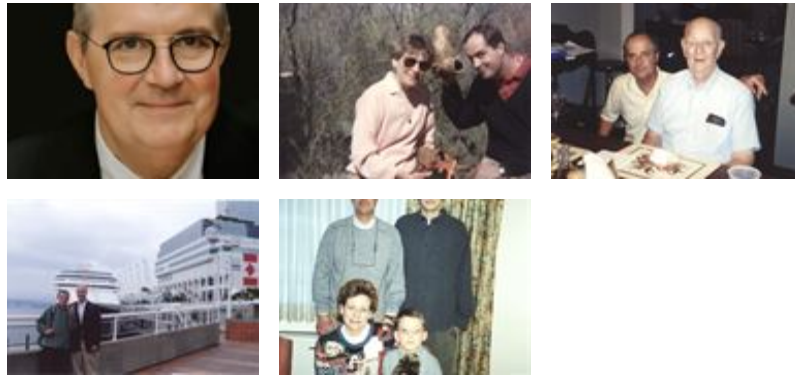
“ 14 files added to the album Life Tributes



House-Rawlings Funeral Home - April 18 at 08:17 PM



“ 83 files added to the album Life Tributes



House-Rawlings Funeral Home - April 18 at 11:53 AM

BC

“ To Paige and all the Dyche Family It was a Pleasure to know Robbie and his family he was Certainly an Honorable Man in Business and in Meeting Him..My Prayers and Love to Each of you as God Wraps you in his Protective Arms 🙏🥰❤️



Barbara Caudill - April 18 at 10:37 AM

DJ

“ A sad week in Laurel County. I have known Robbie since moving to London in 1976. We were the same age. An exemplary and accomplished person who battled Parkinson's disease with relentless courage. Ironically, I was acquainted with one of his law school classmates, John Bickel, who succumbed to the same affliction in 2020; we attended the same high school in Owensboro. Robbie spoke very highly of John. We will miss Robbie and offer prayers to his family.

Don Johnson

Don Johnson - April 17 at 11:54 AM

LY

“ *It was an honor to work with Judge Dyche. His wisdom, integrity, and dedication to justice made a lasting impact on me. Working with him, I learned so much—not just about the judicial system, but about integrity, thoughtfulness, and the importance of doing things the right way. He was incredibly intelligent, yet always willing to teach and guide me. My heartfelt condolences to Jane and their sons.*

Lillie Yaden - April 17 at 10:34 AM

GR

“ *GregMink lit a candle in memory of Robert W. Dyche III*



GregMink - April 17 at 06:55 AM

SB

“ *So sad to hear of Robbie's passing. I attended law school with Robbie, and we were good friends. Argued cases in front of him when he was on Court of Appeals and later served in the judiciary along side him. He had a great wit, an outstanding mind, and a sly grin that were his hallmarks. My sincere condolences to Jane and family. Robbie was one of the great ones of our generation. He will be missed.*



Steve Bland - April 17 at 06:53 AM

MH

“ *Rest in peace, Judge. You were a fair man and a good friend to our family.*

Mike & Ann Harber, Port Charlotte, FL

Mike Harber - April 16 at 08:20 PM

WM

“ *Such a wise and fair judge – and even better person – Judge Dyche had an immeasurable impact on the Court of Appeals and Kentucky law. He will be deeply missed. Prayers for all the Dyche family.*

*-Will Moynahan
(Judge, KY Court of Appeals)*

Will Moynahan - April 16 at 03:42 PM

NJ

“ *He was just an humble man, grounded in his faith and public service. London has lost another great man! Prayers for the family and friends.*

Nita Johnson - April 16 at 03:37 PM

TP

So sorry to hear of the passing of Robbie. Prayers for the family.

Tanny and Barbara Phelps - April 17 at 01:46 PM