



“Nice Boy But Rural”

“NBBR” - Those initials at the bottom of Dan Webb’s application to join the U.S. Attorneys Office for the Northern District of Illinois was an interesting start to Dan Webb’s career as a trial lawyer. D. Arthur Connelly, a “grizzled veteran” in the U.S. Attorneys Office, interviewed Dan Webb and had a habit of making notations at the bottom of applications. His notation for Dan stood for “Nice Boy, But Rural.” Then U.S. Attorney, William J. Bauer made the decision to hire Dan as an Assistant U. S. Attorney in early 1971.

That is where Dan Webb’s career as a trial attorney really took off.



A book published in February, 2015, by Judge Charles P. Kocoras “May it Please the Court, A Story of One of America’s Greatest Trial Lawyers,” follows Dan Webb’s amazing career as a trial lawyer.

Dan was raised in Bushnell, Illinois, by his parents, Keith and Phyllis Webb, along with sister,

Diane. Dan worked and studied very hard, and B-PC’s guidance counselor, Josephine Johnson, saw Dan in a debate, gave Dan a couple of books about being a trial lawyer, and that is what Dan decided he wanted to be.

Dan attended Western Illinois University for three years, and Dan was anxious to get into law school early. Dan interviewed with the Dean of Loyola Law School, and the Dean discovered that Dan did not yet have his degree. Dan gave his first argument to that Dean, and Dan was admitted to law school without an undergraduate degree.

Dan worked tirelessly in the U. S. Attorneys office, trying 20 to 30 cases a year, which gave Dan invaluable experience for his trial career. Dan believed in and was well known for his meticulous preparation for trials.

From prosecution of Edward Barrett, Cook County Clerk, for taking kickbacks for the county’s purchase of voting machines, to prosecution of police officers for shakedowns of businesses for illegal payments, Dan Webb saw it all in the U.S. Prosecutor’s Office.

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Friends in Motion

Some anniversaries recently celebrated include: **Jim** and **Anne Haynes** (61 years), **Ron** and **Shirley Rapp** (48 years), **Richard** and **Evelyn Rock** (56 years), **Lyle** and **Pat Walters** (60 years), **Elmer** and **Margaret White** (61 years), and **Edward** and **Betty Wilson** (61 years), all of Bushnell.



Recent birthday celebrations include: **K. Delbert Curtis** (83) of Avon, **Bernie McCance** (77), of Smithfield, **Dorothy Melvin** (88), of Macomb, **Helen Myers** (88), of Ellisville, **Arla Powell** (81), of Carmel, IN, **Patricia Rutledge** (87), of Adair, **Robert Rutledge** (88), of Adair, **Norma Jean Wertzler** (83), of Morton, **Keith Ferris** (81), **Kenny Knott** (57), **Tom Pratt** (82), **Tom Downs**, **Paul Gossett**, **Eileen Rauschert**, **Judy Walters** and **Nadyne (Tiny) Walters**, all of Bushnell. Happy birthday to all!



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UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

June 6 & July 4 - VFW breakfast, 7 to 10 am

Jun 5 - Free blood pressure, pulse/oxygen, cholesterol and blood sugar checks at F&M Main Bank Lobby, 9 to 10 am

In Celebration of Father's Day

BRUSCHETTA

Michael Steelman

1 cup ripe tomatoes (or one can chopped tomatoes drained)
3 large garlic cloves, peeled and halved
1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil
Salt and pepper to taste
Peel, chop and seed tomatoes. Add garlic, oil, salt and pepper. Marinate at room temperature at least two hours. Serve on grilled bread or crackers.



CREAM CHEESE ROLL

Dan Cortelyou

2 pkg. refrigerator crescent rolls
2 (8 oz. pkg.) cream cheese, softened
1 egg yolk
2 tsp. cinnamon
1 tsp. vanilla
1 1/2 cups sugar
Mix one cup sugar, egg yolk and vanilla into cream cheese. Spread one package crescent rolls in a 9x13 inch pan to cover the bottom. Apply cream cheese mixture evenly over rolls. Press the remaining crescent rolls on top, sealing together the seams.
Bake 30 minutes at 350 degrees. Sprinkle remaining sugar and cinnamon on top, and serve.



CHERRY CHRISP

Don Swartzbaugh

1 can cherries) Mix together, put in
1 Tbsp. flour) baking dish, and dot
3/4 cup sugar) with butter
1 egg, beat well
Sift together the following:
2/3 cup sugar
2/3 cup flour



1/2 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. baking powder

Mix egg and dry ingredients together (will be lumpy) and pour over cherry mixture. Bake at 350 degrees for 40 to 45 minutes.

SLOW COOKED SWISS STEAK

Doug Allaman

2 Tbsp. flour
1 med. onion, cut in 1/4 inch slices
1 celery rib, cut in 1/2 inch slices
1 1/2 lb. boneless beef round steak (cut into 6 pieces)
2 - 8 oz. cans tomato sauce
1/4 tsp. pepper
1/2 tsp. salt
In large re-sealable plastic bag, combine flour, salt and pepper. Add steak, seal and toss to coat. Place onion in greased slow cooker. Top with steak, celery and tomato sauce. Cover and cook on low 6 to 8 hours, until meat is tender.



BAKED ASPARAGUS WITH BALSAMIC BUTTER SAUCE

John Frank

Fresh asparagus
1 Tbsp. soy sauce
1 tsp. balsamic vinegar
2 Tbsp. butter
Cooking spray
Salt and pepper to taste
Place trimmed asparagus on a baking sheet. Coat with cooking spray. Sprinkle with salt and pepper. Bake at 400 degrees for 12 minutes, or until tender.
Melt butter in saucepan over medium heat. Remove from heat and add soy sauce and vinegar. Pour over baked asparagus and serve.



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One of Dan’s most notable cases was “Operation Greylord,” an undercover operation prosecution that exposed the fixing of court cases by payments to court personnel, including Judges.

During the Operation Greylord case, Dan Webb was appointed U. S. Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois. Dan dealt with pressure from Washington D.C. and the press, and proceeded with Operation Greylord. Dan was the lead trial attorney in the first case prosecuted in Operation Greylord, and Judge John M. Murphy was convicted of 24 of 27 counts for corruption.

Perhaps one of Dan’s most famous cases was Dan’s appointment as lead trial attorney in the prosecution of John M. Poindexter, in the Iran-Contra case. That case saw Dan Webb cross-examine Colonel Oliver North, and Dan’s cross examination of former President Ronald Reagan was historic. Admiral John Poindexter was found guilty on each of the five criminal charges.

Dan Webb left the U.S. Attorneys Office in 1985, and entered private practice at the law firm of Winston and Strawn. As the book points out, for the past 30 years, Dan has “probably had more major jury trials than any other attorney in America.”

Dan has always enjoyed the challenge of criminal cases, and relatively recently, defended Illinois Governor George Ryan in his criminal case.

Dan also defended the Phillip Morris Company in the famous tobacco cases, and became a favorite of the jurors, even though many people had a distaste for tobacco companies.

On the technology side, Dan successfully defended Microsoft in an anti-trust case of major consequence. In that case, the Judge ruled in favor of Microsoft, and the favorable ruling was an important part of Microsoft’s business going forward.

Dan Webb now serves as Chairman of the Winston and Strawn law firm, headquartered in Chicago, with offices in all of North America, Europe, Asia, as well as services in Africa and South America. Founded in 1853, Winston and Strawn is one of the oldest law firms headquartered in the city of Chicago, with nearly 1,000 attorneys on staff worldwide.



From the small, rural city of Bushnell, Illinois, Dan Webb has become, as Judge Kocoras states in his book, “the greatest trial lawyer in America these past 40 years.” Dan’s solid upbringing, with his parents, Keith and Phyllis, and his sister Diane, his hard work, high energy and drive has led Dan to become Bushnell’s most famous and successful son.

By Michael G. Steelman