

BIOGRAPHY

JOHN T. TRAYNOR

John T. Traynor, or Jack to his Brothers, was born on November 19th 1926, in Devils Lake, North Dakota, where he has resided all his life, with the exception of his time in college and two years in the United States Navy during World War II.

As the son of Mack V. Traynor, Past Exalted Ruler, Past District Deputy and North Dakota Elks Association Past President, Jack received a thorough indoctrination in Elkdom's principles long before his initiation into the Order, and it was not surprising that he took a strong interest in the activities of the Devils Lake Elks Lodge No. 1216. Brother Jack served as Exalted Ruler in 1957, as a member of the Building Committee in 1969 when the Lodge was destroyed by a fire, and also as a trustee of the Lodge.

Brother Traynor's abilities led him to service as District Deputy in 1961-62, and as State Trustee of the North Dakota Elks Association for six years, with the last two as Chairman. He has also served with distinction as State President in 1978-79.

From 1973 until 1979, Jack served on the Grand Lodge Youth Activities Committee, the last two years as that Committee's Chairman. In 1979, he was elected to a four-year term on the Board of Grand Trustees, serving two years as Pension Member, then Approving Member, and finally as the Board's Chairman. During the past year, he has given of his talents and experience as Special Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler.

Not the kind of man to be a spectator in any area, Jack has served his profession on the Executive Committee of the North Dakota State Bar Association, the Grievance Committee of the North Dakota Supreme Court, and presently is a member of the American College of Probate Counsel, the International Society of Barristers, and the State and American Bar Associations. He has been elected to membership in the Order of the Coif and Phi Beta Kappa. In other areas, Jack has served as Commander of the American Legion Post in his community.

Jack's mother, Betty, was a school teacher prior to assuming the demanding task of raising Jack and his brother, Dr. Mack V. Traynor, currently a member of the staff at the Fargo Clinic. Jack's father passed away in 1970.

Jack married Jane Donovan of Langdon, North Dakota, in 1954, and they are the parents of five children. Tom, the eldest, is associated with Jack in their Devils Lake law practice, representing the third generation of Traynors in that profession. The three "middle children" are in college; and Danny, the youngest, entered Devils Lake High School as a freshman in 1984.

In the remainder of the time available between his family duties and his activities on behalf of Elkdom and the legal profession, Brother Jack occasionally manages to slip away for some hunting and fishing.