



Judge A. W. (" Buck") Birdsong, Jr., a native of LaGrange, Troup County, Georgia (his family having settled in Troup County in 1826), was born January 30, 1925, to A. W. Birdsong and Bessie Viola Cofield Birdsong. He graduated from LaGrange High School (1942), attended Marion Military Institute, Georgia Military Academy, and the United States Military Academy, and received his LL.B. from the University of Georgia Law School in 1951. He was a member of the Phi Delta Theta social fraternity, Phi Alpha Delta legal fraternity (where he served as Chief Justice), and the Honor Court in law school.

Judge Birdsong served thirty-nine months in the U.S. Army; practiced law in LaGrange, Georgia, primarily as a trial attorney and formed the law firm of Richter & Birdsong in 1955. He was appointed Juvenile Court Judge of Troup County, Georgia, in 1958, and served until 1976.

Judge Birdsong served as Chairman of the Democratic Committee of Troup County; co-founder of Peoples Bank of LaGrange (now Trust Company Bank of Troup County, where he now serves as Chairman of the Board of Directors) and is also a member of the Board of Directors of The Trust Company Bank of Columbus. He is a member of the First Baptist Church of LaGrange; former Chairman of the Board of Deacons; former Secretary of LaGrange Development Authority; a member of the American Bar Association; former Chairman of the Membership Committee of Judicial Administrative Division of the American Bar Association; member of the State Bar of Georgia; a member and past president of Troup County Bar Association; member, Lawyers Club of Atlanta; Gridiron Secret Society; Georgia Bar Foundation; West Point Society of Atlanta; Old Warhorse Lawyers Club; Fellow of the American Bar Foundation and past member of the Judicial Council of Georgia; past president of LaGrange Jaycees; past president of LaGrange Lions Club; past president of Highland Country Club; former member of the Moose and Elks Clubs; president of Lakeshore Properties, Inc.; former Trustee of Tift College; former Trustee of Camp Viola, Inc.; member, ABA Committee on Continuing Appellate Education; and a member and past-Chairman, ICJE.

Judge Birdsong was appointed to the Georgia Court of Appeals by Governor George D. Busbee on July 28, 1977.

On September 16, 1948, he married Sara Elizabeth Cliatt Birdsong, the daughter of William Leslie Cliatt and Pauline Price Cliatt. They have three daughters: Nancy Leslie Birdsong Whitford, Sarah Elizabeth Birdsong Vann (a lawyer); and Katherine Guinn Birdsong Candler. Also, they have three grandsons: Andrew Weston Vann, Gary Milton Whitford, Jr. and John S. Candler III, and a granddaughter, Sara Elizabeth Vann.