

CPT (Retired) Dale A. Stalf
Class of 1978
Enshrined 2019



Dale A. Stalf grew up in Delhi, attending Our Lady of Victory grade school and St. Xavier High School where he graduated with honors. He enrolled in Xavier University and signed up for the Army ROTC program just to “give it a try” (not the most popular thing to do in 1974). Upon his graduation from Xavier as Distinguished Military Graduate, Dale was awarded a Regular Army commission as a Second Lieutenant and was assigned to the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) as a forward support platoon leader. In 1980, Dale was one of 21 officers Army-wide who were selected for the Army’s Funded Legal Education Program. He enrolled in the University of Cincinnati College of Law, graduating with honors in 1983. His first assignment as a Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Corps officer was to the 1st Armored Division in Germany, where he served as a military prosecutor until 1987. Dale returned stateside with a final assignment as an Attorney-Advisor in the Office of the General Counsel to the Secretary of Defense at The Pentagon in Washington, D.C. Dale was permitted to retire due to a medical condition in 1988.

His awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, The Army Achievement Medal (w/ oak leaf), the Office of the Secretary of Defense Identification Badge and both Air Assault and Airborne qualification badges.

Dale started in private practice here in Cincinnati shortly after his retirement. His first boss and mentor, fellow Xavier grad and Army veteran Leo J. Breslin, instilled in Dale a lifelong legal philosophy: *“While winning the case is what we are being hired by the client to do, our overriding duty as legal professionals is to always do it the right way”*. Dale is a past Chair of the Litigation Practice Group at Wood + Lamping LLP and focuses his practice on the representation of small and medium-sized businesses, their owners and individuals in cases involving breach of contract, construction defects, products liability, restrictive covenants, employment practices, violations of the Consumer Sales Practices Act, insurance coverage issues and business torts. Dale also regularly represents individuals who have suffered personal injury, wrongful death or other damages in accidents or as a result of professional negligence. He has been regularly recognized by *The Best Lawyers in America*® for his practice in Commercial Litigation, Personal Injury Litigation – Plaintiffs and Litigation – Construction, and was named its 2019 “Lawyer of the Year” in Cincinnati for Litigation – Construction. Dale has also been included on the Ohio Super Lawyers® list published by Law & Politics magazine for his practice in Business Litigation every year since 2009, ten times earning the distinction of being named to its Top 50 Cincinnati list and four times to its Top 100 Ohio list.

Dale has served as President and as a Trustee of the Cincinnati Bar Foundation. And he has served as a Trustee of the Cincinnati Bar Association and chaired its Professionalism and Veterans and Military Law Committees. Dale has also served on the Xavier University’s Center for Veterans Affairs Executive Advisory Board. His *pro bono* work and financial contributions support the Volunteer Lawyers for the Poor and he currently serves on its Board of Trustees. Dale was appointed to the Hamilton County Public Defender Commission and served as a Commissioner from 2012 - 2016.

In his spare time, Dale plays saxophone in “Santa's Goody Bag Band”, which for over 40 years has brought “the music of Christmas to Cincinnati all year long” while raising money for local children's charities.

He and his wife of 44 years, Tammy, also a Cincinnati native and Xavier grad, have 1 daughter, 3 sons, 7 granddaughters, and 4 grandsons.

