

## JUDGE CLINTON W. SMITH 1933-2016

### A champion of the law

By MOORE REUTHER  
mreuther@sungazette.com

**L**ycoming County Judge Clinton Smith was recalled by colleagues, friends and family members as a man who made his mark in life not only in his career but in his personal life.

Smith died Dec. 30 at his Loyalsock Township home after a more than 20-year battle with cancer.

Among those who fondly recall Smith was Lycoming County President Judge Nancy L. Butts.

Smith, she said, had a big impact on her life.

Butts carried out a promise to him that she would sing at his funeral.

As a young lawyer who also served as his law clerk, Butts recalled how helpful Smith could be.

"I've been blessed to have known him," she said during his memorial service Wednesday at the Pine Street United Methodist Church, Williamsport.

Butts, like others who remembered Smith, noted his love of the law.

"He was a champion of the law. He let his decisions be guided by the law," said Kevin Way, a retired attorney, who served for a number of years as Lycoming County Court administrator.

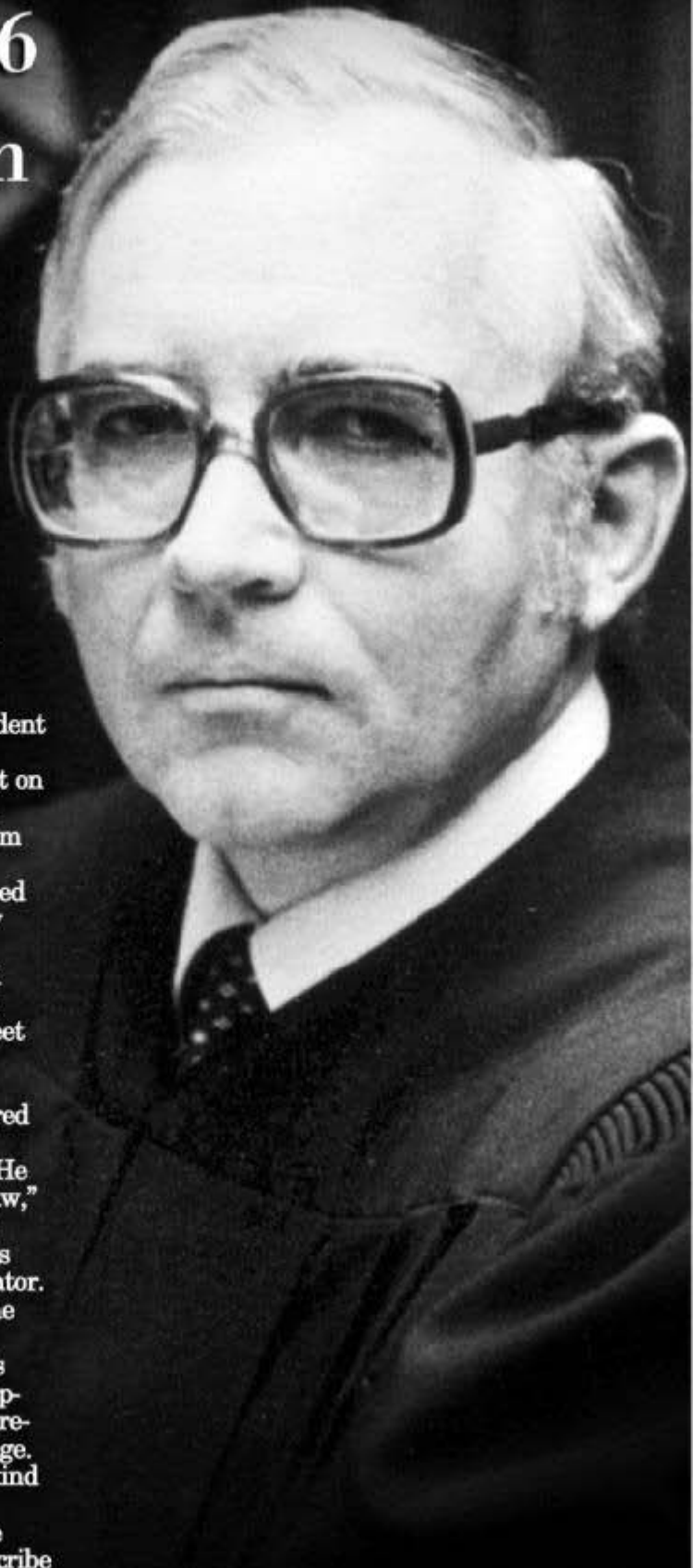
He said he learned a lot about the law from Smith.

Smith was always fair in his rulings from the bench and very supportive of the court system, while presiding as the county's president judge.

"He was a good man. He was a kind man," Way said.

Precise, deliberate and fair, were some of the words Way used to describe Smith.

Williamsport attorney Clifford Rieders recalled being hired by Smith into his law firm when he was launching his legal career.



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Judge Clinton W. Smith, who died Dec. 30 at the age of 83, in his robes. He once served as president judge in Lycoming County.