

**JACK DANIELS, 1937-2016**

# Trial attorney remembered for memory, mentorship

By **Garrett Green***Daily Journal Staff Writer*

**J**ack Daniels, partner at Daniels, Fine, Israel, Schonbuch & Lebovits LLP and a full-time neutral with Judicate West, died from complications of throat cancer on May 14, according to partner Paul Fine. Daniels was 79.

"He was very witty and had a great memory," said Mark Israel, another partner. "He could recite deposition testimony virtually verbatim after reading the transcript.

"Over the years he mentored dozens of young attorneys at our firm, many of whom have gone on to be great trial attorneys in their own right," Israel added.

"Jack was a great trial lawyer and loved trial lawyers," Fine said. "He believed in the right to a jury trial and supported the jury system."

After 43 years representing plaintiffs and defendants in civil cases, Daniels left the courtroom for the conference table. At Judicate West he specialized in catastrophic injury, malpractice and wrongful death.

"He knows how these cases can ultimately turn out in a courtroom," Stephen Pasarow, a defense lawyer with Knapp Petersen & Clark in Los Angeles, said in a 2008 Daily Journal article. "Not everybody has that ability."

"Many of his colleagues that

Throughout his career, Daniels was involved in legal organizations. He served as president of the Los Angeles Chapter of the American Board of Trial Attorneys (ABOTA). "He was so well regarded by ABOTA that they named the trial school after him," Chiusano-Drohan said.

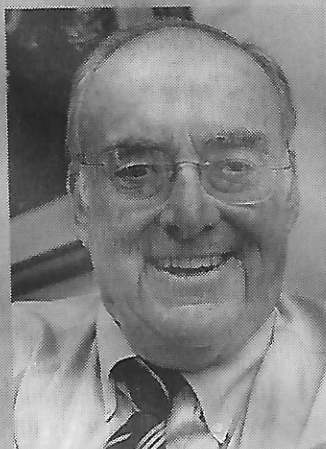
Daniels touched the lives of many throughout his career. "Jack was one of the first people to interview me at the firm back in 1985," said Israel. "He had a knack for making people comfortable and I felt right away that I wanted to work at his firm. I ended up working for him for 30 years."

Daniels received his A.B. from Dartmouth College and his J.D. from the USC Gould School of Law in 1963.

Born on February 5, 1937 in New York City, Daniels was an avid swimmer, competing into his 50s. He and his late wife, Susan, raised puppies for the blind through Guide Dogs of America.

No date has been set for a memorial service.

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he was up against hired him as a mediator because many liked his legal analysis," said Rosemarie Chiusano-Drohan, executive vice president for business development at Judicate West. "He was an icon that people looked up to."