



Harold "Hal" Smith, Esq. **Class of 1950**

Hal graduated from Fort Hill in 1950. He served two years active duty in the Naval Reserve before attending Frostburg State College for one year. He attended Kent State University where he earned a Bachelor of Business Administration. Thereafter, Hal worked in labor and employee relations management positions with BF Goodrich, General Electric, and Texaco. While working full time, he attended night law school at Cleveland-Marshall College of Law and New York Law School. Hal was awarded a Juris Doctor Degree in 1972 by Cleveland State University, Cleveland-Marshall College of Law. He is admitted to practice law in Florida, Ohio, all U.S. District Courts in Florida and the U.S. Supreme Court. He authored: Arbitration of Right of Employee to Self-Expression, 21 Cleveland State Law Review 162, May 1972.

Hal was employed as a labor lawyer with Eastern Airlines in Miami, Florida from 1972 until 1976, when he entered the private practice of law. In 1996, following a survey of over 20,000 attorneys conducted by American Research Corporation, he was selected as a Leading Florida Attorney in Labor Law; less than 5% of all attorneys in Florida were selected. He is rated AV preeminent 5.0 out of 5.0, the highest numerical rating within the Martindale-Hubbell Peer Review Rating Program. He is listed in Marquis Who's Who in American Law, 5th Edition. In 1999 Hal began serving as a full time labor and employment law arbitrator, a service he continues to provide today.

Hal and Betty, his wife of 55 years, live in Bradenton, Florida.