



Stanley L. Patchell '60, '63

Has been elected to membership in the

Beta Phi Hall of Honor

Class of 2019

Brother Stan Patchell was born in Lansdale, Pennsylvania on Dec. 8, 1931 and grew up in nearby North Wales. He attended North Wales High School, where he proved to be an outstanding right-handed baseball pitcher. After graduating from high school, he went to the University of Arizona on a baseball scholarship. He attended college for over a year before deciding to leave school to pursue a career as a professional baseball player.

He married his high school sweetheart, Bettie, before hitting the road to pro baseball. The couple spent five years, from 1952 to 1957, traveling across the United States and Canada while he played in the Pittsburgh Pirates minor league system. In 1957 he decided to return to the UA, where he resumed his undergraduate studies and pledged Sigma Chi alongside his brother, Bob. After receiving his bachelor's degree in finance, he attended law school at the UA and graduated in 1963.

Brother Patchell spent nearly his entire legal career as a criminal prosecutor. In August 1963 he began practicing law in the Pima County Attorney's Office where, in November 1969, he was named the chief deputy county attorney. Then, in 1970, he accepted a position in the U.S. Attorney's Office in Tucson. His tenure was cut short when, in September 1971, he was offered a position in the Arizona Attorney General's Office in Phoenix, where he headed the Strike Force on Organized Crime. While working in the Attorney General's Office, he prosecuted many high-profile criminal cases including the murder of Arizona Republic newspaper investigative reporter Don Bolles.

After retiring from the Arizona Attorney General's Office, Brother Patchell finished his legal career in the U.S. Attorney's Office, where he tried many cases and argued successfully before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Brother Patchell mentored hundreds of attorneys in the art of courtroom discourse.

Upon his retirement, former U.S. Attorney and current Senior U.S. District Judge, Stephen M. McNamee, also a Sigma Chi, recalled that Brother Patchell had an exemplary career. "You have distinguished yourself as an outstanding trial attorney and an honorable individual ... Throughout your life fairness, decency, and good manners have been your calling cards."

Brother Patchell retired to Coronado, California in 1998 and passed away on April 16, 2018 at the age of 86. He left behind two daughters and four grandchildren.

Brother McNamee said about Patchell's Sigma Chi experience, "The values of Sigma Chi were Stan's guideposts throughout his life. He was proud to be a Sig and his ever-present Sigma Chi ring bore witness to it. ... His lifelong commitment to the Ideals of Sigma Chi was inspiring."