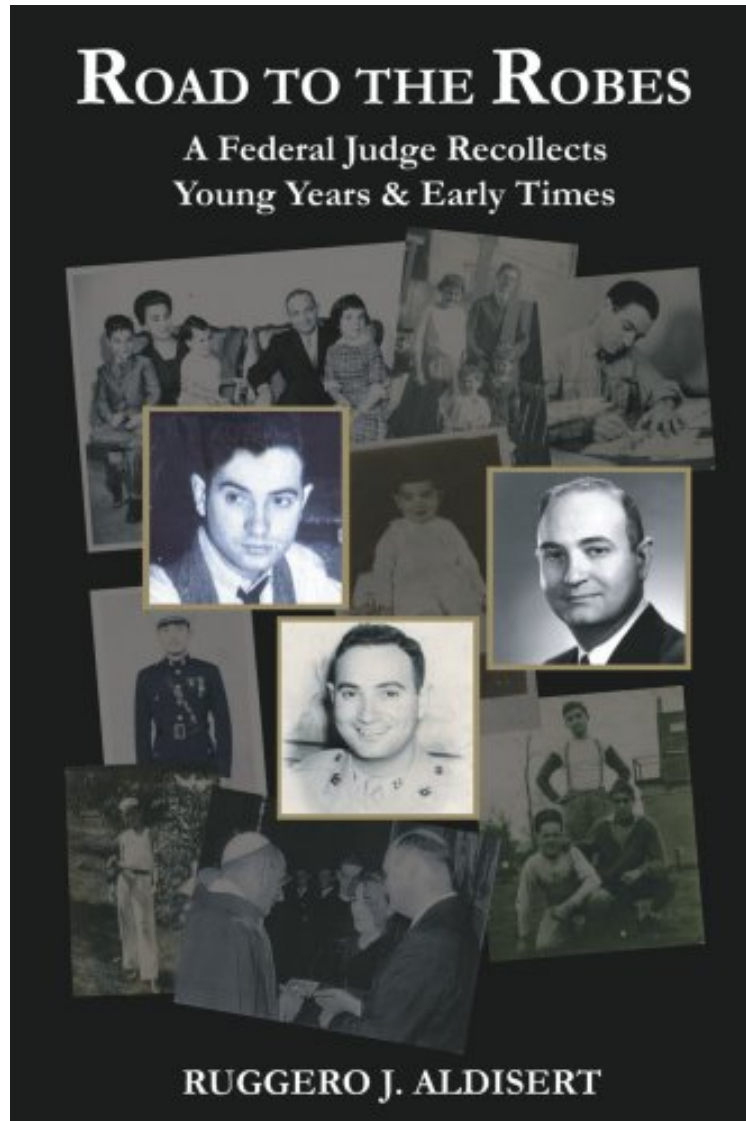


(Get free) Road to the Robes: A Federal Judge Recollects Young Years Early Times

Road to the Robes: A Federal Judge Recollects Young Years Early Times

Ruggero J. Aldisert

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Ruggero J. Aldisert : Road to the Robes: A Federal Judge Recollects Young Years Early Times before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Road to the Robes: A Federal Judge Recollects Young Years Early Times:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Fantastic Read | Very Italian!By monica clemensI was standing in the BART station reading this book with nothing but humdrum around me. When suddenly, I read the explanation of

his Italian grandmother Maria, who never spoke a word of English yet ordered everyone around to the point of fright, and I laughed so hard the entire train station stopped and looked at me. I skipped ahead to read about Ruggero's command post on the Marshall Islands during WWII, the Klan, and coal mines, his father and grandfather, and his every fateful day flashed before my eyes. What a different world we had back then. What a blessing that Ruggero preserved these memories for us.

10 of 10 people found the following review helpful. A Full Life

By npThe Road to the Robes takes the reader on a fascinating journey through the exciting life of Federal Judge Ruggero Aldisert before he became a federal judge. "Rugi" was the son of another very talented Italian immigrant who, as a teenager, made his own way in the new world. The book sets the stage with a page turning account of life as an Italian kid during the twenties in Western Pennsylvania. With the perfect mix of personal experience and historical information Judge Aldisert takes us through his "young years." From experience with the KKK, the joys of Italian food during the depression, to starting a business we discover how childhood experiences have helped to shape the judge's perspective. From there the book moves to college years on the brink of war, enmeshed in national politics as the editor of the Pitt News and later experience as an officer in the Pacific during the war. But the most interesting part of the book recounts a law practice, almost unimaginable today. There is plenty of material for John Grisham here. Exciting criminal trials, high level corporate work, and even a meeting with Jimmy Hoffa all as a sole practitioner. The book is interesting as a biography, but fascinating as a study in how personal experience impacts judicial decision-making. I highly recommend it.

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. interesting look into judge's life

By L.K.J.I was given this book as a gift for my law school graduation. This isn't your ordinary book on the judicial process, but instead, a personal perspective of working to gain the experience and wisdom needed to become a successful federal appellate judge. He takes you through his years as a civil and criminal trial lawyer and you get a great insight into the procedures behind presidential nominations and senate confirmations. There is much to be learned about history from this book, as well. As the author recalls moments from his childhood while growing up in a steel mill town outside of Pittsburgh, you feel like you are having a conversation with a grandfather who's sharing stories about the "good old days." Overall, the book was enjoyable and it reads well. It's a great book to read if you are someone who's just starting out in your law career.

Judges come to their robes bearing the stigmata of past experience. If this old saying is true, then this book describes the stigmata of Ruggero J. Aldisert, Senior U.S. Circuit Judge, a distinguished member of the Greatest Generation who's still active as a judge on the second highest court in the land, just a notch below the U.S. Supreme Court. There is a huge sweep in these pages. Born in 1919, the author takes the reader from his early childhood to 1968, when he first put on robes as a U.S. Circuit Judge. You'll find no stodgy writing here, nary a whereas and aforesaid, but it's what the author says in his preface: a great-grandfather sitting back with the young ones and reminiscing how it was to grow up before dial telephones and when the first radio was a crystal set powered with two batteries and you listened with a set of earphones. But it's more than family memoirs; there's a lot of history set in the Twenties, and Thirties, and most of the time it wasn't to the tune of Happy Days are Here Again. Judge Aldisert grew up as the son of an Italian immigrant in a Pennsylvania steel mill and coal mining town, remembers the Twenties when men worked 12-hour shifts, except every other Sunday when it was a 24-hour shift, came face to face with the Great Depression, the spread of world conflict during his 1937-1941 college years, and describes World War II service as Marine Corps officer in the Pacific. He gives an insider's view of a lawyer who tried both civil and criminal cases, of life as a Pittsburgh trial court judge, and of the rocky road to nomination by President Lyndon B. Johnson and confirmation by the U.S. Senate in 1968. The opening page is a harbinger of things to come. His mother has her arms around the author, then aged three, and his brother one year older. She is sobbing, Please don't hurt my babies, as they peered through her bedroom window at a procession of hooded and robed members of the Ku Klux Klan who walked in a silent circle in the Aldise