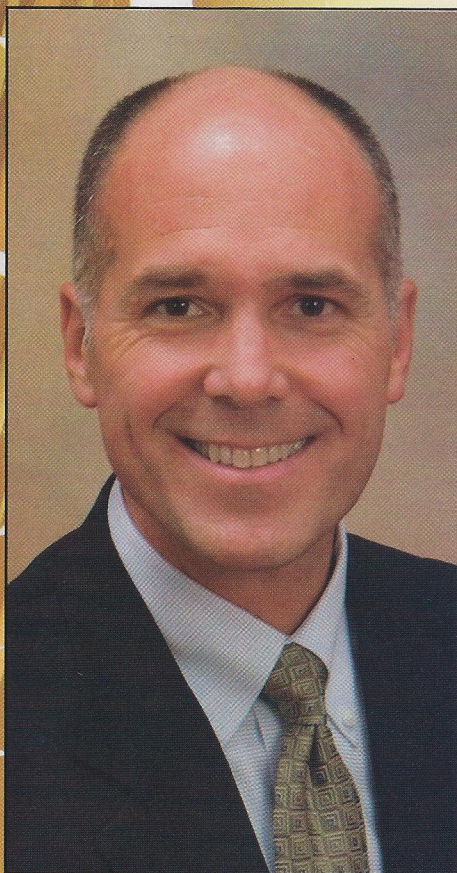


VIRGINIA'S Leaders IN THE Law 2011



Stanley P. Wellman

Harman Claytor Corrigan & Wellman PC

Name

Stanley P. Wellman

Honor

A leader of the statewide defense bar who bridges the gap to work with plaintiffs' lawyers.

Business/Employer

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Education

BA, West Virginia University
JD, University of Richmond

Who was your most important mentor and how did this person impact your career?

John Claytor. His dedication to the client, hard work, thorough preparation and attention to detail set an early standard to which I continue to strive today (but never quite achieve). Another mentor was Jimmy Morris, who taught me that there are some lawyers whose gifts I can never rival, no matter how hard I work, how thoroughly I prepare or how much attention to detail I pay.

What do you consider your biggest personal accomplishment and why?

Marrying my wonderful wife, Mary Lou, and helping her raise three happy, well-adjusted, and successful children: Matt, 22, Sarah, 19, and Sam, 14. A distant second – running one of the hottest Richmond Marathons on record in under four hours.

What is the best bit of advice you ever received?

"And don't forget to date your wife." That's what John Claytor told me on my first day at Browder, Russell, Morris & Butcher in 1987. Also, the day before that first job began my mother told me, "Always be nice to the secretaries."

How do you achieve a balance between your professional life and your personal life?

By making it a true priority. It's exhausting, but I always squeezed in some work

at home before the children woke up and again after they went to bed. That allowed me to be home for most breakfasts and almost every dinner. I tried to make some quality one-on-one time with each child at least once a week. And I tried never to miss a child's sporting event, play, or other performance.

If you hadn't become a lawyer, what field would you have entered?

I'm qualified for nothing beyond civil litigation, if even that. But I'd be very happy teaching history to high school students, and just may some day.

What is your favorite book or movie and why?

My favorite book is "The Killer Angels" by Michael Shaara, a historical novel about the Battle of Gettysburg told by the men who fought it. The book is so well-written, and it taught me to appreciate and value the perspectives of both sides to a conflict.

What are two facts about you that most people, including your closest friends, may not know?

I live in constant fear that I'll be found out to be "merely competent" which would, were it a virtue, assure my place in heaven. Also, I can balance nearly anything on my chin.