

Ellen Fredel

After being a tax partner at Shaw Pittman (now Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman), Ellen started practicing from her home in Cleveland Park in Washington, DC, a few blocks from Fannie Mae. No associates, no paralegals, no secretaries. Just her and a computer, multi-function printer and telephone.

As a lawyer, she did not give you the standard legal memo ten days later that said nothing definitive, but, rather, gave you a concise restatement of the problem and a practical answer, usually as you talked. She had many large clients over those years from Fannie Mae that helped you buy your house, to Kastle Systems that let you into your office, to American Heavy Lift that transported the oil to heat your home in US flag tankers, to Boat America that insured most US personal boats and ran marine supply stores, to Super Salvage near the ball park, to Planning Systems that does engineering and computer stuff for the Navy, to Commonwealth Technologies that did certain secret things for certain secret Government agencies, to MacNeil Lehrer Reports that exposed companies that do certain secret things for certain secret agencies.

But she also represented lots of small start ups and non-profits (like the Animal Welfare League of Arlington) and so many individuals that are beyond counting. Always with dedication and passion and usually for free. She will be missed by us all