I am deeply saddened to report that our beloved partner, colleague, mentor and friend, Darrell Jordan, passed away on Wednesday, January 30. I know I speak for a number of us, particularly those in our Firm’s Dallas office, when I say that Darrell was not only our partner but was one of our most cherished friends on earth. For those of you that do not know, in addition to his devotion to his family, he devoted his life to the pursuit of helping people through an outstanding legal career that racked up countless awards, achievements and honors bestowed upon him by the Dallas Bar Association, the State Bar of Texas, the American Bar Association, the Texas Bar Foundation, and the American Law Institute, just to name a few. Darrell also served as President of the Dallas Bar Association and as the President of the State Bar of Texas. He cared about the poor and the under-represented. He cared about those from all walks of life who were the less fortunate. He paved the way at the State Bar, among other ways, by providing innovative initiatives and programs including those that assisted the needy with provisioning of free legal services.

I can go on and on and on about Darrell’s professional career but mostly I want to say that Darrell was as much a part of my life as anyone in my life. Darrell hired me out of law school giving me my first professional job, helped train me as a young lawyer and partner, mentored me in life, and became not only my dear friend but a friend of my wife and my family. Darrell had one of the best senses of humor of anyone I’ve ever known. He knew how to have fun in all that he participated. He was truly a joy in life. He was also one of the most caring individuals on the planet. Darrell was close to many of us but to me he was family. I can candidly say that I would not be the person or the lawyer that I’ve become (in a good way I hope) without Darrell Jordan in my life. We’ve been friends, colleagues and partners together for the past 40 years. I have a hole in my heart today. We are thinking of Janey, his devoted and selfless wife, Darrell’s amazing children, Stacy, Patrick and Kendall and their spouses Rudy, Pam and Rock, and Darrell’s wonderful grandchildren whom he doted on, encouraged and adored, and all of his extended family. Diamond McCarthy and the legal community have lost one of their best. I feel that I personally have lost one of my family members in addition to a devoted, loyal and deeply cherished friend. Darrell will be sorely missed by all who had the good fortune of knowing him. I cannot measure how much I will miss him. I know how much many of you in Dallas, across the state of Texas and around the nation also will miss him.

Information with respect to Darrell’s memorial service will be forthcoming soon. The Dallas media is already reporting on Darrell’s passing and Diamond McCarthy will be issuing a press release shortly in addition to a number of other things to honor Darrell in the days and weeks to come.