



With outgoing President Judge Thomas R. Mulroy at the CBA's Annual Meeting on June 21.

When he is not busy at his law office, sitting at the negotiating table, attending a village board meeting or, now, attending CBA events, you can find Elrod and his wife tucked away at their lake home enjoying their “little slice of heaven.”

“If I can point to times in my life as the happiest, they are when Donna and I are with our children and grandchildren, my mother and sister, our nieces and nephews, cousins and close friends on our dock in Eagle River overlooking Catfish Lake.”

Like much of what motivates him, Elrod’s passion for the CBA has roots that trace to his father. Richard Elrod was a 55-year member of the CBA and served on a number of committees, although he never pursued CBA leadership.

When Elrod took the oath of office as CBA President at the annual meeting June 21, he recalled a touching story that took place at the end of his father’s life more than four years earlier.

The elder Elrod was hospitalized and in declining health when his son paid a visit just after winning a contested election for the office of CBA Treasurer. Although his father’s cognitive skills were failing, he appeared to understand and enjoy the story of his son’s election. As Elrod left the hospital room, he heard his father tell his nurse with great pride, “That’s my son, the President of the Chicago Bar Association.”

Elrod did not have the heart to correct his father, who passed away a few days later, but he says he made it his mission to prove himself worthy of being elected to the office of CBA President.

At the installation ceremony before a crowd of more than 500 in the ballroom of the Standard Club, Elrod looked up toward the sky and said, “Well Dad, it’s finally true, I am the President of the Chicago Bar Association.” ■

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*Sally Daly is the Chicago Bar Associations’ Public Affairs Director.*



## A Personal Glimpse

*By Adam Sheppard*

Graduate of: Niles West High School; Tulane University; and Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law

Resident of: Highland Park, Illinois

Married to: his high school and college sweetheart—Donna Rosenstone Elrod

Executive Partner of: the Chicago Office of Holland & Knight LLP

Adjunct Professor at: Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law

On the Board of Directors of: Constitutional Rights Foundation; Chicago Bar Foundation; Highland Park Highwood Legal Aid Clinic; Harold E. Eisenberg Foundation; The Standard Club; and Camp Ojibwa

### **The President’s Favorites:**

Favorite Movie: The Shawshank Redemption

Favorite Book: “Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln” (Doris Kearns Goodwin)

Favorite Food: BBQ ribs

Favorite Music: Beatles, Jimmy Buffett, Beach Boys, and Broadway

Favorite Broadway Musical: The Producers

Favorite Hobby: Pontooning

Favorite Color: Purple (Go U Northwestern!)

Favorite Steakhouse: White Stag (Sugar Camp, Wisconsin)

Favorite Place on Earth: Catfish Lake, Eagle River, WI

Favorite Sports Team: The Chicago Cubs

Favorite Chicago Sports Activity: Tailgating at Soldier Field Pre-Bears Game

*This sidebar was written by Adam Sheppard, who is a member of the CBA Board of Managers, CBA Record Editorial Board, and Co-Vice-Chair of the CBA’s Trial Practice Committee. Sheppard is a partner at Sheppard Law Firm, P.C., a criminal defense firm*