

## **JAMES JEFFERSON MAYFIELD**

### **Associate Justice - 1954-1956**

*BORN: November 10, 1911; Montgomery, Alabama*  
*DIED: April 4, 1956; Montgomery, Alabama*

The son of a former state Supreme Court justice, James Jefferson Mayfield earned his bachelor's degree in 1932 and his law degree in 1934 from the University of Alabama. During the 1930s he served as United States conciliation commissioner, 1934; assistant attorney general, 1935; and chairman of the Board of Registrars, 1936.

While serving in the Army Air Forces during World War II, Mayfield graduated from of the Judge Advocate School at the University of Michigan. He was then assigned to a combat bombardment group in the Southwest Pacific.

Following the war, Mayfield returned to Tuscaloosa to practice law and built a reputation as an experienced and able lawyer. He was also a lecturer at the University of Alabama Law School from 1946 to 1953.

Mayfield was elected to the Supreme Court in November of 1954 to serve the unexpired term of Joel Bascom Brown. Mayfield's unexpected death occurred shortly before the Democratic primary election, in which he was running for re-election to the bench.

James Jefferson Mayfield married Elizabeth Montgomery Mason in 1934. In 1951 he married Janette Smith Gibson. He had one son from each marriage.