

**THOMAS WERTH THAGARD**  
**Presiding Judge - Court of Civil Appeals - 1969-1972**

*BORN: April 10, 1902 - Near Greenville, Alabama*  
*DIED: February 8, 1975*

T. Werth Thagard was born on a cotton farm near Greenville, Alabama, the son of the former James Lee and Minnie Roach Thagard. He attended a small, one-room, one-teacher school prior to transferring to the City of Greenville public schools, from which he graduated. He received his B.S. degree from Auburn University. He received his LL.B. degree from the Cumberland University Law School in Lebanon, Tennessee, and was admitted to the Tennessee and Alabama bars.

Following the private practice of law, he served in the State House of Representatives and the Alabama Senate. He served as County Solicitor of Butler County from 1931 to 1946. He was appointed Circuit Judge of the Second Judicial Circuit in 1952, and served in that capacity until he was appointed to the Court of Civil Appeals in 1969, serving as Presiding Judge.

Judge Thagard was married to the former Beverly Preuitt, and they had two children.

*Studio portrait by Leon Loard, circa 1998*