

DRAYTON NABERS, JR.

Twenty-Ninth Chief Justice: 2004-2006

BORN: December 2, 1940; Birmingham, Alabama



*Portrait by JIE RUAN, Chinese,
1962-
Oil on Canvas*

Drayton Nabers, Jr., was born in Birmingham, Alabama, on December 2, 1940, the son of Drayton Nabers and June Porter Nabers. He attended elementary school and high school in Birmingham. In 1962, he received an A.B. degree from Princeton University, and in 1965, an LL.B. degree from Yale School of Law. After graduating from Yale, he served as a law clerk for U.S. Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black.

Nabers was in the private practice of law with Cabaniss, Johnston, Gardner, Dumas, and O'Neal, from 1967 until 1979, at which time he joined Protective Life Corporation, rising to the position of Chief Executive Officer. He retired from that position in 2001, accepting the position of Finance Director for the State of Alabama, which he filled until his appointment by Governor Bob Riley as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Alabama on Tuesday, June 22, 2004. In 2005, he sought election as Chief Justice after winning the Republican Primary, He was defeated by Court of Criminal Appeals Judge Sue Bell Cobb on the General Election of 2005.

He is married to Fairfax Smathers Nabers, and they have three children.

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Location: Supreme Court Antechamber, 3rd Floor, Heflin-Torbert Judicial Building