The judge has been nominated as one of five persons to be inducted into a hall of fame. The induction is to occur at a dinner. The proceeds raised from the dinner will help fund the business and economic education of youth through innovative programs offered by a charity. The judge has requested our opinion as to whether the judge’s attendance at the dinner violates Canon 4C(4)(b), (2006 Kan. Ct. R. Annot. 581).

Canon 4C(4)(b) provides in pertinent part that a judge should not be “the guest of honor at an organization’s fund-raising events.” The event involved is a fund raiser and, since the judge would be attending for induction into the organization’s hall of fame, we believe the judge would be a guest of honor.

We therefore conclude that attendance of the judge at this dinner as the inductee into the hall of fame would violate Canon 4C(4)(b). We further conclude the judge should decline the honor.

We believe this opinion is consistent with the commentary in Judicial Ethics Opinion JE 1.