

IN MEMORIAM
CHARLES MEREDITH PETERS

Charles M. Peters was born September 26, 1920 and departed this life on February 6, 1974 at the age of fifty-three. He leaves his wife, Susan Daves Peters, a daughter, Mrs. Karen Peters Jackson, a son, Charles M. Peters, Jr. and a brother, Sam P. Peters.

"Charlie" Peters as we all knew him was a lifelong resident of Shreveport, a graduate of Centenary College and Louisiana State University and held membership in the American, Louisiana and Shreveport Bar Associations. He served as a combat beach master in the United States Navy during World War II and had practiced law in Shreveport for more than twenty-five years at his death. Charlie was a member of the Official Board of First United Methodist Church and for many years taught Sunday School to young adults. He was a member of masonic bodies, Joppa Lodge, Scottish Rite and El Karubah Shrine, the 40 & 8, American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Elks. He served as Chairman of the legal division of the United Fund and on the Boards of The Caddo Foundation for Exceptional Children and The Business Girls Inn. He served on Governor McKeithen's special Ad Valorem Tax Advisory Committee.

These accomplishments, though impressive, do not capture for this record the spirit of Charles Peters.

We cannot improve on Stanley Tiner's words appearing as an editorial in The Shreveport Times, and we quote selectively:

"... The dry statistics of 53 years could never tell the story of Charlie Peters.

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He never bowed to the system or gave up in his attempts to make it better.

There was the hot passion of concern about everything that occurred in the world. In a day in which righteous indignation was not so very much in style, Charlie Peters was righteously indignant on virtually every day of the year.

He shook his fist at the injustices of life wherever he found them, never quite willing to acquiesce in submission to any circumstance.

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But Charlie Peters was more than just the raw-edged vehicle of dissent, much more. He was keen wit and intelligence honed to a fine point and his public defense of whatever cause was always a thing of beauty. He had that certain ability to drive home a point of truth with a velvet eloquence that was crushing in its final blow.

And there was something in Charlie Peters that drove him to other people, and compelled them, in turn, to him.

He was not content to quietly do something for himself - he forever was sharing with others.

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His stiletto-quick mind was ever working to force persons to the limits of their capability, making them to think out fully their position on a given matter.

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Charlie Peters generated the thinking process, and he reveled in the sport, enriching it with the flow of hyphenated, multisyllabled words, and a depth of reasoning rarely found at this, or any other level.

Charlie Peters was a man of deep convictions, deep passions, and his God was at the center of those convictions and passions.

He was one of those men, all too rare, who was willing to stand for his beliefs, and battle for them.

Those who knew him can see him still. An image of outrage at the wrongdoing around him, his graying hair modishly long and rumpled, wire-rimmed glasses and a mustache that was something of a symbol of his status as a middle-aged rebel, and his clear voice of conscience that spoke for many."

Charlie Peters was an advocate in the true sense of the word.

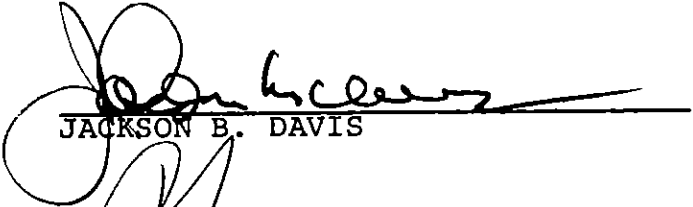
He represented a client with all his being and never chose expediency over justice. The law was his mistress and his deep and abiding sense of fairness and right was unerring. He represented people from all stations of life and, irregardless of the nature of the case - large or small, popular or unpopular, the representation was always the same - his very best. Cutting corners with justice, morality or honesty was not in his being. He would fight such unceasingly in an opponent and would not tolerate it in a client.

The Bar has lost a true lawyer in Charles Peters. He will not come this way again - nor one like him.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this Bench and Bar does hereby express its gratitude and respect for the life and service of Charles M. Peters.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we extend to the members of his family our sincere sympathy in their loss and that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this Honorable Court as a lasting memorial and that a copy hereof be delivered to the members of the family.

THUS DONE AND RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED in Open Court in Shreveport, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, on this 3rd day of September, 1974.


JACKSON B. DAVIS


ROBERT G. PUGH


HUGH T. WARD, CHAIRMAN