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OCT 16 1978

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MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

OF THE

SHREVEPORT BAR ASSOCIATION

HONORING

EDOUARD ALFRED "RALF" DIEBALL

Presented and Adopted

October 16, 1978

Edouard Alfred Dieball was born June 5, 1917, in Somerville, Massachusetts. He died October 1, 1977, and is survived by his widow, Ruth, five children, Penny, Al, Sam, Barbara, and Gene, sixteen grandchildren, and one great-granddaughter.

During his early years he attended parochial schools in Canada and was graduated from high school in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Thereafter he attended and received a degree from Boston University.

After graduation, "Ralf," as he liked to be called and was known to his many friends and associates, entered the business world in Boston, Massachusetts.

Shortly thereafter, however, he entered the United States Air Force as an officer during World War II. His tour of duty was in the European theatre, where he served as a navigator on bombers making runs over the European continent during the war. He was injured in one of these bombing missions and subsequently, because of his fluent knowledge of French, was re-assigned as an interpreter. He was in the Occupation Forces in the European theatre, and when the war ended, took his discharge in England.

Ralf held several jobs for foreign corporations during this period of time, but after some five years in England, returned to the United States and again entered into the business world in the field of advertising in Boston and New York.

At this point in his life Ralf had already had, as we have seen, an adventurous, productive and satisfying life, but to him there still remained always the challenge of a new field of endeavor to which he would put his efforts in an attempt to conquer new areas.

Therefore, he subsequently moved to the south and southwest and engaged in the oil business in and around Shreveport and out through Arizona and New Mexico. At one period during this time he tried his hand at uranium prospecting. The stories he told of these incidents were not only amusing but also show his determination to overcome difficulties in any field that he might choose.

Thereafter, Ralf returned to the Shreveport area, where he again entered the business world and at this point, he became fascinated with the practice of law through his contacts with local attorneys. At this point, Ralf made up his mind that he wanted to be an attorney, and he tackled the job of study and apprenticeship with the same enthusiasm and dedication that he brought to all endeavors which he attempted.

After some years of study and doing somewhat menial tasks under a number of lawyers in Shreveport, Ralf passed the bar on April 27, 1965. He entered the practice of law as an attorney with the same enthusiasm which those of us who knew him have seen him undertake any other tasks. Eventually he opened his own office and engaged in the practice of law as a sole practitioner.

If ever I have seen a man who enjoyed being a lawyer, even to the extent of enjoying all the obligations and problems that necessarily come with the practice of law, that man was Ralf Dieball. The bar associations constantly remind us, through their canons of ethics, that the practice of law is not a mere money-making operation. Above all, we, as attorneys, owe duties and responsibilities to our clients, to the public, to the courts, and to the whole system of law and justice established in this country.

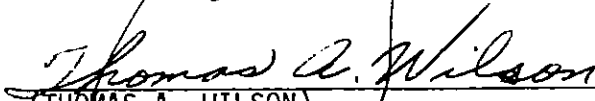
From personal experience I can say that Ralf Dieball took these principles most seriously. When he represented a client, his primary concern was with the welfare of the client and representation of the client with all possible effort. To Ralf, the fees that he received were really secondary to his desire to be of help to people who consulted him regarding their problems. He was an attorney, but above all, in his desire to help people, he was indeed a counselor.

I have never seen Ralf refuse to help someone who came to him for help for which he could furnish a remedy or counsel the individual. I think this primarily stemmed from his basic love for people. This love and concern showed itself not only in his relationship with his family, his wife, children and grandchildren, but also in his dealings with his clients and with the public in general. He was truly a compassionate man.

His untimely passing was a loss, not only to his wife, family and friends, and those of us who knew him well and were close to him, but I feel, also to the public and to the Bar Association. We shall all miss him.



(MAYNARD E. COSH)



(THOMAS A. WILSON)



(JACK H. KAPLAN)