

SHREVEPORT BAR ASSOCIATION

November 3, 1994

MEMORIAM

EDWIN W. GOETZ, JR.

FILED

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Elmo S. Goetz
DEPUTY CLERK

We are here today to honor the memory of our brother, Edwin W. Goetz, Jr., who departed this life on February 14, 1994. His long life was marked by a deep commitment to professionalism and excellence to both the bench and bar.

Mr. Goetz, known as "Eddie" to his legions of friends, was born in Beaumont, Texas on April 29, 1905 and moved to Shreveport with his family some three years later. His earliest education was at the old Travis Street School, then located at the southwest corner of Travis and Marshall streets, only a short block from the Caddo Parish Courthouse where he was to spend most of his working life.

After graduating from the old Hope Street High School, Mr. Goetz went to work for the DeLaney Advertising Agency, which, among other things published a weekly paper, later to become a daily, known as the Daily Legal Register, that included a list of legal proceedings and transactions. As a reporter for the Register, and while still in his late teens, it was his job to compile legal records for publication. His energetic yet courteous demeanor brought him to the attention of Will Levy, the Caddo Parish Clerk of Court, who hired him in 1925, while the present courthouse was still under construction. Mr. Goetz was to serve as Deputy Clerk of Court and Minute Clerk for the next three other Clerks of Court for Caddo Parish, namely Victor G. Simmons, Dozier B. Webster and Dwight D. Pyburn, an unparalleled service extending through five decades.

His early years in the Clerk's office were interrupted by his attendance at Tulane University, which

resulted in his being admitted to the bar on March 2, 1935. He returned to Shreveport and practiced law with the late Judge Randall Whitmeyer, under the firm name of Whitmeyer and Goetz, but shortly returned to the Clerks office which was to be the linchpin of his professional life. During his long tenure, he was given many additional professional responsibilities including being chosen as one of 11 members of a special Probate Advisory Committee, assigned by the Supreme Court and the Louisiana Law Institute, the task of rewriting the Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure.

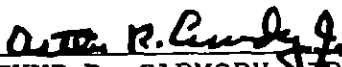
Eddie was a very highly conscientious lawyer who always carried out his duties in a professional manner. He was a fixture of the First Judicial District Court and young lawyers knew that if their filings passed muster with Mr. Goetz that they would be well received by the presiding judge. Many older members of the Bar will remember his constant good humor and courtesy to them in their younger days and his advice on everything from drafting and filing pleadings to simply "getting it right" without ever a suggestion or thought of recompense. Respect and friendship, both given and received, was all that Eddie Goetz required.

He was free with his time and talents and for many years gave programs for new lawyers on the rules of the local court. Possessed of a dry sense of humor, he always explained there were two kinds of rules, the written and the unwritten and, of the two, the unwritten were the most important. He would then explain that each of the four judges had his own unwritten rules but after they were then explained by Eddie they were easily understood and followed by all.

He married Thelda Marie Power and they were blessed with three children, Thelda Goetz Baker of Shreveport, Gail Ann Goetz of Houston, and Janet Goetz Jarvis, who predeceased him. He later married Pauline Roshto Goetz, who survives him.

WHEREAS, the passing of Edwin W, Goetz, Jr. has taken from the ranks of the Shreveport Bar Association one of its oldest and most respected members, one whose life and conduct exemplified the highest standards of our profession;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Shreveport Bar Association adopt and record this memoriam as a testimonial and tribute to the memory of its late departed brother and friend, and that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the Minutes of the First Judicial District Court and that copies thereof be delivered to his family.


ARTHUR R. CARMODY, JR. CHAIRMAN


LEROY SMALLENBERGER

November 3, 1994


ROBERT E. EATMAN