

**MEMORIAL FOR
HAL VERN LYONS
PRESENTED AT THE MEMORIAL AND RECOGNITION CEREMONY
HELD IN THE FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
NOVEMBER 4, 2004
UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE
SHREVEPORT BAR ASSOCIATION**

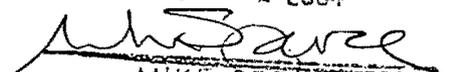
Hal Vern Lyons was born February 21, 1924 in Shreveport, Louisiana, and grew up in the Highland area on Robinson Place. One of his childhood friends and comrades in mischief was another respected Shreveport attorney, Roland Achee. Hal graduated from Fair Park High School in 1940 at the age of sixteen years and traveled to Dallas, Texas to work for North American Airlines until he entered the Navy during World War II. Hal Lyons served in the South Pacific during the war and was honorably discharged from the United States Navy on December 22, 1945.

Upon his discharge from the Navy, Hal returned to Shreveport and worked at the Louisiana Army Ammunition Plant while he attended Centenary College at night where he studied law under the G.I. bill. He passed the Louisiana Bar Exam in 1952 and entered a law partnership with his Uncle Louis Lyons, a Bossier City Judge. He continued in this partnership for about five years, after which he worked for Employer's of Wausau as an adjuster/in-house counsel from about 1959 until 1964. In 1964 Hal returned to the private practice of law which continued until his death.

Hal married Karla King in 1963, which began a special marriage and partnership which lasted until his death. They worked together, played together and lived life together; they were almost inseparable. Hal is survived by his wife, Karla, and his daughter, Camille Lee Lyons, who he raised from a child with love and respect. Some of his fondest times and memories were high school rodeos with Camille and Karla.

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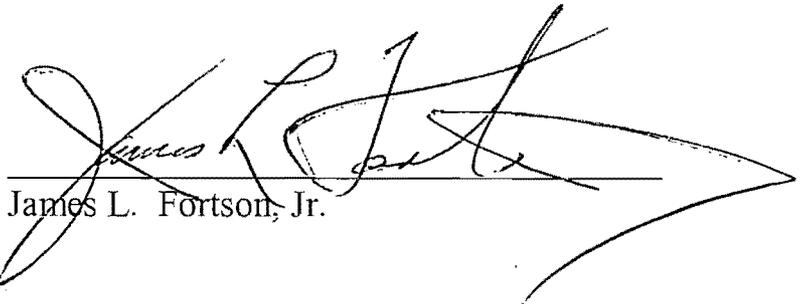

MIKE SPENCE
DEPUTY CLERK OF COURT

Hal was one of those people who created strong emotions in almost everyone he met, few people had no opinion of Hal. I can never repay him for the start in the law business that he afforded me, he didn't give me a job, he gave me an opportunity and mentored me for all of my legal career. He taught me how to *be* a lawyer. If you didn't want an honest answer, you didn't ask him a question, if you needed insight into a problem, he could cut to the heart of it. He was truly one of the "old time trial lawyers", his word was his bond. Hal Lyons was a member of the Shreveport Bar Association, Louisiana Bar Association, Louisiana Trial Lawyers Association and the Association of Trial Lawyers of America. He loved the practice of law.

For all his professional qualities, Hal had a sense of humor. One time, just before I built my office building, I was renting an office on Freestate Boulevard from a landlord who wanted to raise my rent despite my lease. He said it was a breach of the lease for me to work on Saturday because he only rented the office to me five days a week. One Monday morning I came to work early, about 6:30 a.m., and found a yellow paper towel taped to the door that said "Cease and Desist - Landlord Seizure", with a padlock on the door. I took pictures and cut the lock off, then and went to tell Hal about this situation. He pulled out a key and unlocked the padlock and almost fell out of his chair laughing.

Hal loved helping people and was a guardian and protector of those who needed help, on two occasions he threw FBI agents out of his office when he felt that they were abusing their authority. After one of those occasions Judge Ben Dawkins admonished those same agents that he would put them in jail if they continued their conduct. His dedication and loyalty to his family, including his mother until her death, and his brother, Billy Lee, until his death, were tender characteristics of a strong man. We will truly miss him.

To Karla and Camille, his loving family and many friends and colleagues on the bench and bar, and on behalf of the Shreveport Bar Association, I submit this memorial to the memory of Hal Vern Lyons, and move that it be inscribed in the records of the First Judicial District Court, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and that certified copies be presented to his family.



James L. Fortson, Jr.