

IN MEMORIAM

JUDGE WILLIAM F. WOODS, JR.

December 18, 1908 - November 3, 1975

We, the undersigned committee, designated by the Shreveport Bar Association to prepare and submit the resolution to the memory of the late William Fuqua Woods, Jr., Retired Judge of the First Judicial District Court, on this occasion, submit the following:

William F. Woods, Jr. was born in Lake Charles, Louisiana on December 18, 1908, the son of William F. and Lula Gayle Woods. A few years later the family moved to Shreveport where Mr. William F. Woods, Sr. served as manager of Shreveport office of Prudential Life Insurance Company for many years.

Willie - as he was known to his many friends - received his early education in the Shreveport public schools and St. Johns High School, from which he graduated. He followed his academic studies at Centenary College in Shreveport and then attended Louisiana State University and Tulane University, where he studied law.

Willie was a great lover of sports, and particularly baseball. He was a member of the varsity baseball team while attending Tulane University.

Following his admission to the practice of law in 1934, he opened his office in Shreveport where he engaged in the private practice of law for the next eight years.

On August 26, 1938 he married Miss Lillian Wilson of Coushatta, Louisiana. Their marriage was blessed with a son, William F. Woods III, who is now a practicing attorney in Houston, Texas, and a daughter, Louise Gayle Woods, the wife of John Polk, residents of Lake Charles, Louisiana.

In 1942 he began his career of public service when he was appointed first assistant district attorney for the First Judicial District. He served in this capacity with distinction until his election in 1948 as a Judge of the First Judicial District. He was re-elected to this office for successive terms in 1954, 1960 and 1966.

Judge Woods was a loving and devoted father. As an encouragement to his son's participation in a Future Farmers of America project, he acquired a small herd of cattle which he personally attended, together with his son. His efforts were well rewarded when, as a proud father, he saw a bull raised by his son bring the highest price at the Louisiana State Farm auction for that year.

He was equally as devoted a grandfather, often visiting his granddaughters, Peggy Polk and Terri Polk, at their home in Lake Charles. He thoroughly enjoyed doing things for his grandchildren. On one occasion he, together with his wife, Lillian, spent many hours building and furnishing a doll house for their grandchildren. This doll house was so fine and elaborate that it was the subject of a feature article in the local press.

The interests of Judge Woods were quite varied. He was a Mason, a member of the East Ridge Country Club and a lifelong member of St. Marks Episcopal Church. He was quite interested in public speaking and for several years taught a Dale Carnegie course.

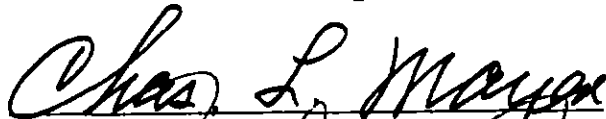
After serving 22 years as a District Judge he retired on August 20, 1970. He died in Lake Charles, Louisiana on November 3, 1975 where he was temporarily residing to be near his daughter and grandchildren. He is survived by his wife, two children, two grandchildren and his sister, Mrs. Marguerite Woods Stephens, wife of Harry S. Stephens, a member of this bar.


Judge Woods was a good judge and an honor to his profession. The dignified manner in which he conducted the business of the Court, his sense of honor and integrity in all matters and his high standard of ethics in his relations with lawyers, litigants and witnesses were among his outstanding qualities as a judge. He also had a good sense of humor, an understanding of human nature and a lot of common sense in addition to his knowledge of the law.

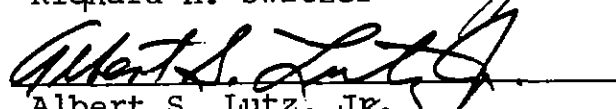
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, of the Shreveport Bar Association, do hereby express our deed admiration and respect to the late Judge William F. Woods, Jr. whose ideals and standards of Honor and Justice are worthy of the emulation of every member of the Bench and Bar.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we extend to the members of his family our sincere and heartfelt sympathy in his untimely death, and that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the First Judicial District Court as a final tribute to his outstanding public service to his community and state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Memorial be delivered to the immediate members of his family.


Chas. L. Mayer


Richard H. Switzer


Albert S. Lutz, Jr.