

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

OF THE

SHREVEPORT BAR ASSOCIATION

HONORING

ALTON MEYER RICHMOND

Presented and Adopted

November 2, 1993

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TO THE HONORABLE JUDGES OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, OTHER JUDICIAL DIGNITARIES, MEMBERS OF THE BAR, MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY OF ALTON MEYER RICHMOND, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

We come to pay our last honors and tribute to the memory of one of our most esteemed and dedicated members of the legal profession.

Alton Meyer Richmond was born in Gloster, Mississippi on August 14, 1904, the son of Seaborn Clay Richmond and Rosa McDaniel Richmond. He went to that house not made with hands eternal in the heaven, having died on March 2, 1993.

He moved with his family to Shreveport, Louisiana and graduated from the Hope Street, Shreveport High School. Desiring more education, Mr. Richmond studied law at Centenary Night School, was admitted to the Bar and practiced law until his demise.

He retired from the Shreveport Police Department as Chief Clerk, after fifty-seven years of devoted service. Mr. Richmond was an invaluable source of a vast amount of knowledge about the department and its personnel. Accordingly, he was retained in that capacity under eleven Mayors, eight Commissioners of Public Safety and fifteen Chiefs of Police.

Freemasonry was his love and he was extremely cognizant in all phases of it consisting of the Blue Lodge, Scottish Rite, York Rite and the Royal Order of Jesters.

Alton Meyer Richmond's masonic career began when he was initiated an Entered Apprentice on December 11, 1925; recited and received the Fellowcraft Degree on December 18, 1925; and was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on January 8, 1926 in Joppa Lodge No. 362. He served as Master of his Lodge in 1931 and served as Secretary for several years.

In the York Rite, Mr. Richmond became a member of the Shreveport Chapter, No. 10, R.A.M. on February 23, 1950; Ascension Commandery, No. 6, on March 27, 1950; Shreveport Council, No. 23, Cryptic Masons, on May 31, 1954; and received the Super Excellent Master on the same date. In 1959, he served as High Priest of the Royal Arch Masons; Illustrious Master of Cryptic Mast; and Eminent Commander of the Knights Templar. In the Chapter, he received the Order of the Royal Priesthood; Order of the Silver Trowel in the Council; and Knight Crusader of the Cross in the Commandery. He was also honored by being made a Knight York Cross of Honor (KYCH).

Mr. Richmond became a Thirty-second Degree (32nd) Scottish Rite Mason on November 20, 1928. He was considered by all that knew him to be one of the most outstanding ritualist in the many phases of Masonry. He possessed an outstanding memory and could perform any part. He was Past Venerable Master of Shreveport Lodge of Perfection; Past Wise Master of Shreveport Chapter of Rose Croix; and Past Master of Kadosh of Shreveport Consistory. He was invested as a Knight Commander of the Court of Honour in 1939, and coroneted a Thirty-third Degree Inspector General Honorary in October, 1947.

Mr. Richmond was very active in the Shrine, being a member of the Ceremonial Cast Unit of El Karubah Temple. He was made an Emeritus Ceremonial Cast Potentate in 1982 for his many years of service to the Temple. Taking the train to Mexico City to conduct a courtesy Shrine Degree someone humorously mentioned that he should conduct the degree in Spanish. To everyone's amazement he learned Spanish and conducted the courtesy Shrine Degree in Spanish. It is well known in Masonic circles that Richmond conducted more masonic funerals than anyone else in Shreveport.

Mr. Richmond did practice law, particularly in drafting wills, successions and uncontested divorces for policeman. He did his own work using an old manual Royal typewriter, two fingers and a thumb on this space bar.

His father was a drummer for Elston, Prince and McDade. Mr. Richmond was an avid sports fan, particularly enjoying baseball and football. He used to go to all of the LSU football games whenever they would play, if within driving distance.

Alton Meyer Richmond is survived by his wife, Patricia Hendricks Richmond of Shreveport, Louisiana, and a number of nephews and nieces.

The undersigned committee feeling that it is a privilege to offer this Memorial Resolution, move that the sympathy and condolences of the Shreveport Bar Association be extended to Mr. Richmond's wife, nephews and nieces; that copies of this Memorial Resolution be provided to each of them; and that it be entered upon the records of the First Judicial District Court and of this Association as a testimonial of the affection and respect the members of the legal profession in Shreveport, Louisiana have for Alton Meyer Richmond.

Respectfully submitted this 2nd day of November, 1993.

Judge Garde K. Hamilton

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Leon M. Pliner, Chairman for the Memorial Committee