## **MEMORIAL FOR**

## AMBER HUFFMAN WATT

## PRESENTED AT THE MEMORIAL AND RECOGNITION CEREMONY HELD IN THE FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT NOVEMBER 3, 2016 UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE SHREVEPORT BAR ASSOCIATION

Amber was born Amber Dionne Huffman May 11, 1979. She died on May 7, 2016 at her home in Shreveport. She is survived by her husband Christopher Evans Watt and her two young daughters Anna and Emma. Amber is also succeeded by her parents, Charlie and Cindy Huffman and her brother Aaron Huffman, her grandparents Ms. Elise Wissing, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles and Bea Huffman of Corpus Christie, Texas. According to Amber's mother, Cindy, it was her father Charlie who consistently urged and encouraged Amber toward the practice of law.

Amber went to Loyola High School here in Shreveport and to Agnes Scott College in Atlanta Georgia, where she studied abroad and majored in history. Afterward, she attended Tulane Law School in New Orleans graduating near the top of her class.

During Amber's legal career she worked with a number of individuals and firms including myself at Flowers and Gold, Wellborn Jack Jr. at his office, Ted Casten at Casten and Pierce, Jerry Harper at the Harper Law Firm and most recently at the firm of Cook, Yancey, King & Galloway.

The first time I met Amber in the early 90's when she came to my office to tell me that one of my clients cars was parked in her bosses parking place. I soon learned that she had taken on employment with my neighbor in the office next door, Mr. Wellborn Jack Jr. Remarkably, Amber was able to resolve the parking issue between Wellborn and I without use of lethal force or bloodshed. This was my first glance into Amber's ability to calm a situation. That is, Amber's demeanor was so soft and serene that not only is it hard to imagine arguing with Amber, it is hard to imagine having an argument in her presence. To have to resort to raised voices seemed so childish with Amber in the room. I remember being jealous of Wellborn and thinking how lucky he was for having found such an awesome associate.

It wasn't long after that I hired my nephew and Ambers husband to be, Christopher Watt to work in my office. Everybody loved Chris and he was a good worker but he seemed to always be out of pocket. One day when I was looking for him I walked out the back door of the office and found him standing in the doorway talking to Amber. After that finding them together became more and more the norm until one day he told me that he was going to ask her to marry him. My family will be eternally grateful to Chris for that.

Chris and Amber were married at Saint Mark's Episcopal Church in Shreveport. They had two beautiful daughters Emma and Anna. They had an arrangement that people like me can only dream about. Amber was the breadwinner and Chris stayed home and took care of the house and children. Not too long after that Amber came to work for me and now I had Amber and Wellborn would have to be jealous of me.

Giving the relative quiet and private life that Amber and Chris choose to live I was amazed at the number of people at her funeral I was particularly impressed by the effort made on her behalf and for her family by the last firm she worked for Cook, Yancey, King & Galloway. I was truly impressed by the level of kindness and concern that the people at Cook Yancey showed for Amber and our family from physically helping with the reception after the funeral at St. Marks to literally taking up a collection for Chris and the kids until the finances could be straightened out. Amber talked all the time about how she loved that job and apparently they loved her.

In addition to being really smart, Amber was really kind. You could see it in her expression and her soft tone of voice. She could feel the pain of others. She was bright and funny and everything that a person could want in a daughter in law, a daughter, a sister or a mother. She was an incredible mother. She was one of those people that everyone wants to be became she was so sweet and kind and humble but so smart. If you live in South Highlands Amber was the pretty young woman running down Fairfield by the park at 15 mph pushing a her two beautiful daughters in a double carriage, or simply walking with her husband and children on a summer evening down their street. Her sense of family was intense, and she along with her husband and the children formed an impenetrable barrier that protected them from the turmoil of the world.

I was fortunate that Amber married into my family, so not only did I get to know her as a friend and employee, but also as a family member. In short, not only did I get to know her, I got to love her and feel her love. Amber was the kind of person who could actually make people feel good about ourselves and even lawyers. We could use more people like her. She will be missed.