## MEMORIAL FOR FREDERIC LOGAN MILLER

## FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

**OCTOBER 28, 2009** 

## UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE SHREVEPORT BAR ASSOCIATION

FILED

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MIKE SPENCE
CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK OF COURT

Frederic Logan Miller was born in Shreveport, Caddo Parish, Louisiana on June 26, 1945. He died peacefully at his home on June 1, 2009, after a courageous battle with cancer. Fred was preceded in death by his parents, by his first wife, Lucretia Taylor Miller; and by his step-granddaughter, Julia-Ann Elizabeth Sibley. He is survived by his loving wife, Rebecca Miller; by two sons, Frederic Logan Miller, Jr. and his wife, Karen, by Jack Ryan Miller and his wife, Sandra, step-daughter, Elizabeth Wendy Harper and her husband, Douglas Dale Harper, III; and seven grandchildren: Patrick Johnson Miller, Katherine Miller, Adelaide Celestia Miller, Jack McGee Miller, John Graham Cavett Sibley, Bruce William Jackson Sibley and Mary Elizabeth McClery Harper. Fred is also survived by his brother, Matthew Hollis Miller, his aunt, Emily Jacobee; and a number of nieces, nephews and cousins.

Fred attended public schools in Shreveport, graduating from C. E. Byrd High School in 1963. He attended the University of Mississippi where he was an active member of Delta Kappa Epsilon and graduated in 1967 with a Bachelor's degree in Public Administration, in 1967. He thereafter graduated from Louisiana State University Law School in 1970 with his Juris Doctor degree.

He returned to his home of Shreveport taking a clerkship with the Second Circuit Court of Appeal. He then began the active practice of law from 1971 until May of 2009. His practice included civil and business matters, including commercial law, probate, and oil and gas. He was also adept at criminal law having participated in and argued the <u>Dino</u> case, which was a landmark Louisiana Supreme Court case defining the responsibilities of law enforcement when dealing with juveniles.

Fred was considered by his peers as a man of uncompromising character and unparalleled ability. He was plain spoken with an economy of words. He was considered not only an

authority on the matters of which he spoke, but as a studied and accomplished authority.

Fred was an active, lifelong sportsman and wildlife conservationist. He was actively involved in Ducks Unlimited, having served as State Chairman from 1988-1990. He was also actively involved with the Coastal Conservation Association ("C.C.A."), on state and national levels. He served as President of C.C.A. LA in 2002-2004 and as a Chairman of the National Government Relations Committee from 2001 until present. He was appointed to serve as President of CCA LA in 2002-2004 and as Chairman of the National Government Relations Committee by Governor Mike Foster, serving the Commission from 1996-2004 and was Chairman of the Commission in 2000. He was appointed to the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission by Governor Blanco and served as a Commissioner from 2005 until his death.

As a strong supporter of Delta Waterfowl, he was engaged in United Kennel Club Hunter Retriever and American Kennel Club Test Activities. While his eyesight was measured by the bounds of humanity, his vision was unlimited. Fred had the enviable ability to look at today's Louisiana wetlands and see tomorrow's promise. That promise, with conservation, will be enjoyed by his children, his grandchildren and by generations yet to come.

Fred's education in public administration was not lost on him. He was known to tell many public officials, particularly lawyers who became public officials, not to forget "from whence they came." He stayed in touch with his fraternity brothers all of his adult life.

While he was a master of metes and bounds in his real estate and oil and gas practice, his life, his wit, and his sense of humor had no such limitations. In the later years of his practice, he did not frequent the courthouse as often, preferring instead to the efficiency of his solo office practice. One day in civil court, in response to a filing in litigation by an opposing counsel, he told the presiding Judge, in a packed courtroom: "Your Honor, if opposing counsel had used the telephone directory instead of the Code of Civil Procedure, we would not be here today."

The family and friends of Fred Miller must remember that we are not left weaker by Fred's absence – rather, we are stronger because we are the beneficiaries of his presence. Fred would want us to tell the new lawyers honored today to live their lives fully – to work hard and professionally in this honorable profession; to honor their family by giving of themselves and their time; and to give back to their community "from whence they came."

It is the prayer and petition of a grateful State, and the prayer and petition of a grateful profession, and the prayer and petition of a grateful family and friends that Frederic Logan Miller rest in peace. Further, on behalf of the committee we pray that this Memorial be filed in the record of these proceedings and a copy provided to his family.

Respectfully submitted,

Samuel W. Caverlee

Francis M. Gowen

Charles R. Scott