MEMORIAL FOR

JEAN EDGERTON PIERSON, JR.

PRESENTED AT THE MEMORIAL AND RECOGNITION CEREMONY

HELD IN THE FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

NOVEMBER 6, 2025

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE

SHREVEPORT BAR ASSOCIATION

GOOD AFTERNOON YOUR HONORS, MAY IT PLEASE THE COURT:

Family, friends, and fellow members of the bar,

I have the pleasure, but also a heavy heart because of our relationship as friends, fraternity brothers and law partners over a period that spanned sixty-one years, to offer a few words about Jean Edgerton Pierson, Jr., known to everyone as "Jay," well that is everyone except Jack Carlisle, Knox Ridley and Johnson Ramsey, to whom he was "Jaybird," and to his grandchildren who knew and loved him as "Papa Jay."

Jay was a meticulous lawyer. He was specialized before the Bar Association afforded special recognition to specialties, but when that time came, he acquired official specialty designations in Tax Law and in Estate Planning and Administration. At the time of his death Jay was serving on the Louisiana Law Institute's Committee to Revise the Trust Code. Jay was a Certified Public Accountant as well as an attorney and found it difficult to manage a law matter, or a grocery list for that matter, without developing several spread sheets of analysis, and never accepting "rounding errors" but demanding exact balances, sometimes to the 11th decimal place. His calculations for how to pack the car for the family's annual pilgrimage to the beach was a thing of precision and beauty, not to mention his spread sheet on how to keep his kite aloft at the beach.

After the Air Force and law school Jay joined Blanchard, Walker, O'Quin & Roberts and moved to Shreveport, where he and his wife continued to reside throughout his career. He immediately established a state wide reputation for his expertise as a tax lawyer.

Jay was a banker at heart; his family owned City Bank in Natchitoches, and he served on its Board until he was age termed off under its Board membership rules, became

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MIKE SPENCE CLERK OF COURT Director Emeritus and his seat taken by his older son. In fact, he left the practice of law for a period of ten years due to the lure of banking, to serve as Vice President of Wealth Management and Trust Officer of Regions Bank, where his legal background contributed greatly to his success. But he missed the pure practice of law and returned to Blanchard Walker in 2013 for the remainder of his days.

Jay was an All Star quarterback at Natchitoches Central High, President of Sigma Chi Fraternity at LSU, a veteran of the Air Force and Chairman of the Board of Sci-Port. He also served on the Boards of the Hal Sutton Foundation and Goodwill Industries of Northwest Louisiana.

He and his wife, Connie Corkern Pierson, his lifelong sweetheart who grew up as his next door neighbor, were Members of First Methodist Church here in Shreveport where they faithfully worshiped. Jay and Connie always sat in the balcony at First Methodist, first because Connie is not that tall and found it difficult to see over taller folks, so she needed to sit there so she could more easily see the pulpit, and second, so if the service ran late Jay could easily slip away to make his tee time.

Jay and Connie have two sons, Jason, married to Shelby, who lives in Houston and Ronald, married to Shelly, who lives in Covington. There are five grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Jay was not only a talented lawyer but was large of heart, devoted to family, fiercely loyal to friends, an avid fan and loyal supporter of LSU football and baseball. He was pretty good mechanically also, having built his wife an elaborate watering system for her outdoor hanging ferns, complete with a timing system.

He had a ready smile and a quick wit, and never met a stranger, Jay strove not for publicity or praise, but for principle. This individual was a man of integrity with a sense of duty, a man who made his life matter, and by making his life matter, made other lives meaningful.

He may really be best known for his prowess on the golf course. He was an accomplished golfer, winning the Shreveport County Club Championship multiple times, the Shreveport City Amateur Championship, the Louisiana Amateur Championship, the Deep South Four Ball Championship with his brother Jim, who predeceased him. Jay qualified for and advanced twice to the sectionals for the U.S. Open, finished 4th in the Pebble Beach Pro-Am with his partner, professional golfer, Jim Furyk, and qualified for the US Amateur, Senior British Amateur and the U.S. Senior Amateur and the U.S. Senior Open. He played regularly with golfers the caliber of Hal Sutton, Billy Joe Toliver and David Toms. Despite being able to play with the pros, he even humored me and let me play with him. A favorite memory of those adventures was on a water hole at old Shreveport County Club. I teed off and hit into the water, so Jay says "hit another one," and I did, also into the water, so he says "one more." I pull another ball out and he said, "wait, wait, John, don't hit a new ball, hit an old ball." I responded, "Jay, I've never had an old ball." So, he reached in his bag and gave me one to hit.

Jay's legacy, quietly, but boldly survives him, and provides an example which should inspire others. Every client was important to Jay; no case was so insignificant that it did not generate his best efforts, and a spread sheet.

Excellent attorney, devoted family man, successful banker, man of conviction and faith—Jay Pierson's life is one that should offer inspiration to those new attorneys being recognized here today and confirmation of all that those of us more steeped in Bar membership hold proud.

Yes, here was a man who was large of heart, highly talented, devoted to family, an accomplished attorney, a great golfer, successful banker, an avid fan and loyal supporter of LSU football and baseball, a man always with a ready smile and a quick wit, and who, with a true sense of dedication, genuinely cared about assisting others. He was a man of integrity with a sense of duty, a man who made his life matter. A man who lived a full life. He was my best friend and he is greatly missed.

Your Honors, I now move to request that this Memorial Eulogy for Jean Edgerton Pierson, Jr. be duly recorded on this 6th day of November, 2025, in Shreveport, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and made part of the permanent record of the First Judicial District Court, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and that copies be delivered to Jay's family.

Thank you, Your Honors.

Respectfully submitted,

John T. Cox, Jr.