

MEMORIAL FOR
JEAN BAPTISTE MORNEAU
PRESENTED AT THE MEMORIAL AND RECOGNITION CEREMONY
HELD IN THE
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
NOVEMBER 3, 2011
UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE
SHREVEPORT BAR ASSOCIATION

Jean Baptiste Morenau, better known to us as John B. Morneau, was born on March 14, 1939. He passed away on October 10, 2010. He was a lifelong resident of Caddo Parish, living most of his life in Shreveport until he moved to Vivian in 1992. John graduated from Byrd High School and thereafter enrolled at Northwestern State University at Natchitoches. After graduation, he attended Loyola Law School from which he graduated in 1972.

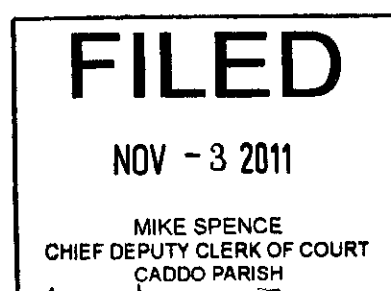
After graduating from law school, John started a practice of law in Shreveport, and continued in that practice until his death.

I first met John within just a few years after I began practicing law. His father was Ed Morneau who owned a claims adjusting company on Louisiana Avenue, with whom I had become good friends – although always adversaries. I don't remember if John was working for his father at that time or just visiting at his office.

After that first meeting, I had no contact with John for several years, until he called me to tell me of the sudden death of his father.

My next meeting with John was years later, about 1986, after I had made a mess of my life and career. John had opened his law practice in the office building where his father's claims business had been located. I mention this, not only because I was so grateful for the opportunity of a job, but because it was the beginning of a close friendship that grew and lasted until John's death.

As I got to know John better, I came to realize that John offered me that job, not just because I might be of help to him, but knowing that at that time I needed help – and even more, that I needed a friend. I will always be grateful that he extended the offer of both to me.



John often seemed to impart an appearance of being tough and impervious to the opinions of others. I think he wanted to leave that impression. However, those that knew him best knew him to be gentle, kind and thoughtful. He loved his family. He was loyal to his friends. That's the John Morneau that I knew.

I recall that John was always looking for a bargain, and nothing seemed to make him happier than believing that he got the best end of a deal. I recall that he purchased a Chevrolet truck, at least 10 years old, from some doctor. He paid \$500.00. He used it to drive to and from work. It sounded like a log truck, and you could hear him coming at least a block away. I named it the Morneautomobile – and he came to refer to it by that name. He drove that truck another 10 years. I sometime think that he drove it so long just to prove what a great bargain he had made.

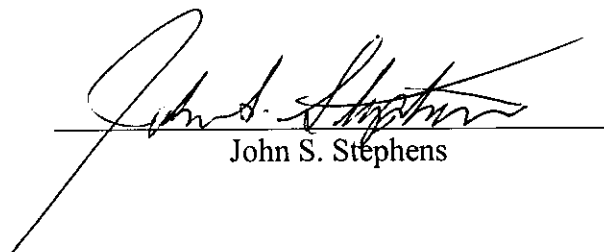
Everyone knows of John's great love of guns. He was an authority on guns and gun laws, and the Second Amendment. Anytime that I needed information on those, I knew I could call John and he could give me the answer without having to go to the books. I enjoyed walking into a restaurant with John – two guns strapped to either side, and watch the stares and reaction of others. I think John enjoyed that.

John was devoted to the practice of law. He always sought the best interest of his clients. As we lawyers all do, he enjoyed and took pride in winning, but when he lost, he felt disappointment, believing that he had let his client down.

John was preceded in death by his father, J. Ed Morneau, and his father, Mildred Marie Morneau. He was survived by his wife, Sandra Kellogg Morneau, and three children, Joseph Edward Morneau, Robin Morneau and Meshell Batiste Morneau, two stepchildren, Joseph P. Ebarb, Jr. and Donna Simpson, his sister, Mary Stevens and his brother, James Edward Morneau, and five grandchildren..

On behalf of the Shreveport Bar Association, we submit this memorial to the memory of John B. Morneau, and move that it be inscribed in the permanent records of the First Judicial District Court, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and that appropriate copies be presented to his family.

Respectfully submitted on this 3rd day of November, 2011, in Shreveport, Caddo Parish,
Louisiana.



John S. Stephens