## Memorial for MICHAEL S. HUBLEY

Presented at the Memorial and Recognition Ceremony held in the First Judicial District Court October 28, 2009 Under the Auspices of the Shreveport Bar Association

The memory of a good person is a blessing.
Proverb 10:7

Michael Sidney Hubley, was born on July 12, 1954 in Shreveport, Louisiana and quietly passed away on August 8, 2009 at the age of fifty-five. He was a graduate of C. E. Byrd High School and Northwestern State University. He received his law degree from the LSU School of Law. Mike was an Eagle Scout and avid tennis and racquetball player. He particularly enjoyed international travel and was fluent in Spanish. He was a member of St. John Berchmans Cathedral, was devoted to daily mass and rosary, and was a founding and coordinating member of the Shreveport Bar Red Mass Society.

After earning his law degree, Mike began his legal career working with Attorney Algie Brown and later became an associate at the local firm of Lunn Irion. He left Lunn Irion due to a special calling to the priesthood and entered the seminary to commit his life to Christ. However, as he did throughout his life and career, he put his life on hold and returned home to take care of an ailing family member. Upon his return to Shreveport, he became a partner in the law firm of Hicks and Hubley where he put in countless hours ably representing his clients for almost twenty years. In 2003, when his longtime partner and dear friend Maurice Hicks became a federal judge, Mike spoke of scaling back his practice, retiring and moving to a small town somewhere in Mexico. To this end, the members of his firm, Hubley Marcotte Rhodes and Hussey, endured Mike's daily talk of his move to Mexico where he would have serene waters, good food and friends, relaxation, but most of all cheap living. I, as did many of his friends and family, traveled with him to his beloved Mexico and saw first hand the joy and comfort he felt when in Mexico. Five years later Mike was still talking of scaling back and retiring, but now to his beloved Argentina where he spoke of serene waters, good food and friends and relaxation, and what he discovered to be an even cheaper cost of living. He compiled endless photos of the apartments and homes he would purchase when he moved to the big city in Argentina. He began to take six to eight week vacations to the Argentina

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countryside with promises of no return. Those of us who loved him urged him to retire and enjoy the remainder of his life, a life that he had dedicated to others. But as always, in his self-sacrificing way, he would return to his family, friends and clients to fulfil that "last" little thing he had committed to doing, whether it was arguing before the Louisiana State Supreme Court or completing a home improvement job for a friend or family member. There was always something to do for others before he could surrender his life to himself. I came to believe that he would never retire. Retirement would mean abandoning what was the essence of Mike Hubley, his love and commitment to his family, friends, and the law.

Mike practiced law the same way he lived his life. He would fight any obstacle to the end and would never quit but always with the highest degree of professionalism, compassion for others and most times with lots of humor. His clients respected him and often praised him for his work and his calm demeanor and big smile would help to keep things light and encourage cooperation with opposing counsel. For Mike, the law was fulfilling and was what sustained him. The practice was more than a means of support but it was a mission to give to others. He believed in truth, justice and his word was his bond. The law became his calling. He practiced law as he did his religion, with daily service and unwavering devotion.

He was recently recognized by the Shreveport Bar Association for his professionalism and lifelong dedication to the practice of law. He was humbled by the thought of anyone paying him honor when all he did was "what any ordinary lawyer" would do.

He was preceded in death by his parents Melba M. And Henry W. Hubley, Jr. He is survived by his sisters, Helen Hubley Powell and husband James, Patricia Hubley Hooper and husband Ron, Rose Hubley Day and husband Phillip; and by his brothers, Hank Hubley and Charles E. Hubley and wife Helen Frances. He also leaves a host of other family and dear friends who will miss his keen wit, his big boisterous laugh, his voice of reason, and his exceptional kindness in his personal and professional life. His examples of love, caring and determination will carry on as an inspiration to everyone. This is not the end of Mike, his memory will live among us forever.

You can shed tears that he is gone, Or you can smile because he lived, You can close your eyes and pray that he will come back, Or you can open your eyes and see all that he has left.

Your heart can be empty because you can't see him Or you can be full of the love that you shared, You can turn your back on tomorrow and live yesterday, Or you can be happy for tomorrow because of yesterday. You can remember him and only that he is gone Or you can cherish his memory and let it live on, You can cry and close your mind be empty and turn your back,

Or you can do what he would want: smile, open your eyes, love and go on.

Author Unknown

Zelda Tucker