

**MEMORIAL FOR
R. LANE PITTARD
PRESENTED AT THE MEMORIAL AND RECOGNITION CEREMONY
HELD IN THE FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
NOVEMBER 14, 2024
UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE SHREVEPORT BAR ASSOCIATION**

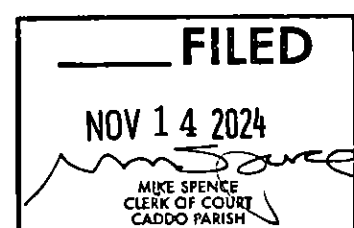
MAY IT PLEASE THE COURT:

Robert Lane Pittard was born on June 19, 1957, in Minden, Louisiana, to Robert and Esther Pittard. Lane passed away peacefully at his home in Bossier City on December 12, 2023.

His early education was in the Webster Parish School System culminating in his graduation from Minden High School in 1975. After High School, he attended and graduated from Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, Louisiana, where he was a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity and earned a degree in Business and Finance in only three (3) years, graduating in 1978. He attended post-graduate training at LSU Shreveport and ULM in Monroe, which enabled him to sit for the C.P.A. exam. He found that working in an office alone, as a C.P.A. for Brammer Engineering, was not the career path he had envisioned for himself, so he moved to Little Rock, Arkansas to begin his new adventure.

Lane went on to Law School at the University of Arkansas in Little Rock, where he graduated in 1992. He sat for and passed the Bar in both Arkansas and Louisiana and held a license to practice law in both states. He clerked and then practiced in Arkansas for a very brief period, before returning to the Bossier/Webster Parish area to establish his career and legacy as a pillar in the legal community.

Lane's legal career spanned over three (3) decades and included a private practice of over twenty (20) years in both civil and criminal cases, where he occasionally served as Special Master in cases involving difficult financial issues. Lane believed that public service was his true calling and where his legal mind could find its best use. In addition to maintaining his private practice, he served as an Attorney with the Public Defender's Office, where he was an aggressive, but compassionate advocate for his clients. In 2002, he became the First Assistant to District Attorney, Schuyler Marvin, where he served as Chief Prosecutor of the 26th Judicial District in Bossier and Webster Parishes for fourteen (14) years. He was dedicated to the pursuit of justice and often repeated "that the basic principle of achieving justice is not prosecuting the guilty, but it is protecting the innocent".



Lane saw a new opportunity when the Judicial seat in Division "C" of the 26th Judicial District opened up, after Judge Jeff Cox was elected to the Second Circuit Court of Appeal. He decided his pursuit of justice and his stellar legal career would be best culminated with his final adventure as a District Court Judge. Attorney Lane Pittard became the Honorable Lane Pittard, taking the Oath of the 26th Judicial District Court of Division "C" on January 1, 2017. He served in that capacity until his death. He was truly a Lawyer's Judge. He always stated that he "never forgot what it was like in the trenches and, therefore, would run his courtroom in a lawyer friendly manner". He was a voice of reason in a profession where finding the truth sometimes took some digging.

Lane's impact to his community was not just in his capacity as a Lawyer, a Prosecutor or a Judge. He gladly shared his gifts of humor, music and story-telling with anyone who would listen for a few minutes. One of his favorite stories to tell is how he came to love music. When he was a young boy, his mother made him take piano lessons. His piano teacher taught from the church hymnal, since it contained sheet music. After the teacher played a certain piece, showing Lane the basics, he began to play the song accurately, and, when she walked over to stand behind him, she noticed the hymnal was upside down. That's when she realized Lane was playing by ear and not by reading the music. Lane never became efficient in reading music, but did become proficient on multiple instruments by being self-taught. He played in the Praise Band at church and was a founding member of the Bossier City Torpedoes band. To him, music was not only fun, but was therapeutic, and he often said "it was one of the main reasons he kept grounded".

Lane's love for people in need led him to help, form, and start Souper Saturday at First United Methodist Church. The Souper Saturday group has delivered hundreds, if not thousands, of meals to shut-ins over the years. It was one of Lane's favorite activities, because he believed in being the hands and feet of Jesus. His faith in Christ and his love of people was the capstone of the servant we knew as Lane Pittard.

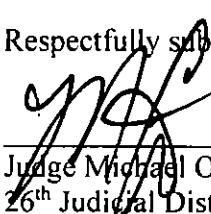
Most of all Lane loved his family. No father could ever be more proud of his sons than Lane was of Rob and Don. He would never grow tired of telling everyone in his circle of friends stories of his son Rob in the Movie business and how many movies stars he would rub shoulders with. He was always headed out of town to Atlanta to meet up with Rob for a ball game or just to hang out with his new grandson. He would brag that Don could sell ice to an Eskimo or how he

never met a stranger. He and Don shared the love of music and politics; "Don is going to be my politician" I think was his insurance that Don would take care of him or Mrs. Pittard or both in their later years. Most of all he loved and was devoted to "Mrs. Pittard" everything non-court related elicited the same response "let me ask Mrs. Pittard". They traveled together, socialized together, laughed together and mourned together. It all meant more when he was with Mrs. Pittard. I know that he is telling everyone in Heaven, just wait until Mrs. Pittard gets here she will know what to do.

Lane was proceeded in death by his parents, Robert and Esther Pittard, and his sister, Gen Briscoe. Left to cherish his life, is his devoted wife of 42 years, Adeline; his son, Rob, and wife, Natalie and grandson Robert; son, Don, and wife, Mady. He is also survived by his sister, Carol, and husband, Charles, as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

Your Honors, I now move to request that this Memorial Eulogy for R. Lane Pittard be duly recorded on this 14 day of November 2024, 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 R. Lane Pittard's family. Thank you, Your Honors.

Respectfully submitted,



Judge Michael O. Craig
26th Judicial District Court