

SHREVEPORT BAR ASSOCIATION

Memorial to Ray A. Barlow

October 26, 1995

Ray Allan Barlow was born on January 12, 1931, in Lafayette, Louisiana. His family moved to Shreveport in his early years, and Ray graduated from Fair Park High School in 1947, having barely attained the age of 16. Later, at a time when this country was involved in the Korean conflict, Ray enlisted in the United States Marine Corps, where he served for two years. After his military service, Ray returned to Shreveport and Centenary College, receiving his undergraduate degree in geology in 1954. He studied law at Tulane, graduating in 1957.

After graduation from Tulane Law School, Ray began his practice with the Milling firm in New Orleans. The next year he moved to Shreveport to practice with the firm of Hargrove, Guyton and Van Hook. Over the years, that firm became Hargrove, Guyton, Van Hook and Ramey and, later, Hargrove, Guyton, Ramey and Barlow. In early 1994, the Hargrove firm was dissolved, and Ray became a partner with many of the former Hargrove partners in Barlow and Hardtner L.C. of which he was a member until his death in May of this year.

Throughout his legal career, Ray was an active participant in things both professional and civic. Professionally,

he served as President of the Shreveport Bar Association in 1990. He became a Lifetime Fellow of the Louisiana Bar Foundation in 1986. He was inducted into Sigma Gamma Epsilon, Honorary Geological Fraternity in 1994, and was included in the publication "The Best Lawyers in America" each year from 1989 until his death, a recognition by his fellow lawyers of his exceptional legal talents and accomplishments. Ray was a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates and the National Institute for Trial Advocacy for many years. He had served as a member of the Tulane Continuing Legal Education Advisory Board, Chairman of the L.S.U. Mineral Law Institute, Delegate to the Louisiana Bar Association House of Delegates, Chairman of the Louisiana Bar Association Mineral Law Section and Chairman of the Legal Aid Society of Caddo and Bossier Board of Directors.

On the civic side of the ledger, Ray had served as Chairman of the National Foundation-March of Dimes Board of Directors, President of the Centenary College Alumni Association, President of the Southfield School Board of Trustees, Chairman of the Salvation Army Advisory Board and Director of the Louisiana Association of Independent Producers and Royalty Owners.

Ray was a committed churchman. He was a communicant of St Mark's Episcopal Cathedral, where he had served on the Vestry and on the Board of Trustees of St. Mark's Cathedral School.

Last in order of mention, but first in order of importance to Ray, is his family, whom Ray adored. He and Janet Aimer Barlow, Ray's sweetheart, friend, supporter and moderating influence, enjoyed thirty-four years of married life together. Janet, with two of their three children, Nelle and Allan are with us today. Their other son, David, is studying law at Tulane.

On Ray's 50th birthday, a friend presented a gift in rhyme, which began:

"In a cold winter night in '31

Mrs. Barlow gave birth to a fine healthy son.

* * *

They named him Ray - a powerful beam,

A beautiful boy, all peaches and cream.

He soon took charge of the hospital nursery,

His organization was far more than cursory.

"Yes Sir" and "No Sir" cried the staff and the babies,

As he ordered inoculations for smallpox and rabies.

A precocious child, his street was his fief,

Among cowboys and Indians, WHAT ELSE BUT A CHIEF! ... "

And Ray Barlow was a CHIEF. A take charge type of guy who approached everything in life full bore and with great energy and enthusiasm. You always knew when he was around, and when he

was around things had a way of happening - usually good things. You never had to wonder where Ray stood on any given issue. He was not bashful about stating his views. Ray used his talents to the utmost and had a dynamism that was unique. He was intensely loyal to his clients and friends, and had an inner kindness that belied a sometimes gruff exterior. He loved the practice of law and his words and actions reflected a pride and professionalism of the highest order. Ray was aggressive and not at all reluctant to step up to bat. He was a natural born competitor - whether in the courtroom, across the negotiating table, or on the golf course, Ray loved to compete. And when a client had Ray Barlow for his lawyer, he had every bit of him.

Ray loved life and lived it to the fullest. His home in Colorado was dear to his heart and it was there that Ray and Janet spent some of their happiest days. He took up golf and skiing later in life and approached both with the same intensity with which he practiced law. He was patient, kind and encouraging with duffers. Ray enjoyed helping others improve their game, whether in sport or the practice of law.

In his later years, Ray fought two long battles with a foe that could be deterred but not conquered. Even in this conflict, Ray exhibited a tenaciousness and will to live that was

an inspiration to all around him. And at the end was at peace with his circumstances and his Lord.

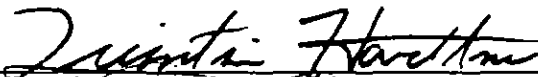
Ray's customary haunts seem very quiet in his absence. A swirling vortex is suddenly gone. He is missed.

The Committee is pleased to offer the following resolution:

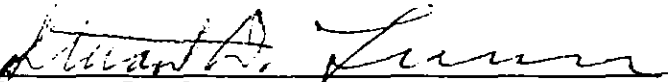
BE IT RESOLVED, That the admiration and respect in which Ray A. Barlow was held by his many friends, as expressed in this memorial, be spread upon the minutes and made a permanent part of the records of the First Judicial District Court.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we extend to his family the sympathy of each member of our Association in their loss, and that a copy of this memorial and resolution be delivered to the family.

Respectfully submitted


Quintin T. Hardener, III


Robert Roberts, III


Stuart D. Lunn