MEMORIAL FOR ROBERT ROBERTS III

PRESENTED AT THE MEMORIAL AND RECOGNITION CEREMONY

HELD IN THE
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
OCTOBER 28, 2010
UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE
SHREVEPORT BAR ASSOCIATION

FILED

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MIKE SPENCE
CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK OF COURT

There was a man who was tall of stature; large of heart; highly talented; devoted to family; a lover of baseball, and particularly the St. Louis Cardinals; an avid fan of the LSU Tigers and of the Law School of that institution. There was a man with a ready smile, social graces and a genteel spirit, but with a true sense of dedication, who cared about assisting others and who gave freely of his time to many, many causes. There was a man of integrity and a sense of duty, a man who made his life matter. The members of his law firm, the members of the Shreveport Bar and of the entire Bar of Louisiana, his family and friends and the community itself, were made better by the life of this man -- Robert Roberts III, who passed away on September 7, 2010, but with a legacy shaped over his eighty years that survives him, and which stands to inspire others.

Bob was born in Shreveport on July 22, 1930, to Robert Roberts, Jr. and Mary Marshall Roberts, and the ensuing years of his life were marked by contributions and filled with accomplishments, slowed only by his health problems in the last few years before his demise. Bob attended Davidson College, and Louisiana State University from which he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1951 and a Juris Doctorate degree from the L.S. U. School of Law in 1953, following in the legal profession footsteps of his father and of his grandfather, who served as a district judge in both Webster and Caddo Parishes. While in law school, Bob was Associate Editor of the Louisiana Law Review and was a member of Order of the Coif.

He served his country for two years in the Unites States Army as an officer in Judge Advocate General Corps during the Korean Conflict following his graduation from law school. Upon completion of his military service, Bob joined his father and his father's partners in private practice at the Shreveport law firm of Blanchard, Walker, O'Quin &

Roberts, where he was a director of that firm until 1999, when he assumed an of-counsel role. Remarkably, he kept the same legal secretary, Wanda Atkinson, for those over fifty years.

His service to the legal profession was noteworthy. While making a name for himself as one of the outstanding oil and gas attorneys in the state, and representing clients with the highest degree of professionalism, he freely gave of his time in service to his profession as well. He served as President of the Shreveport Bar Association, as well has having chaired over his career six of its standing committees. He was a member of the House of Delegates and the Board of Governors of the Louisiana Bar Association, Chairman of the Mineral Law Section of the Louisiana Bar Association, and served forty-six years on the Louisiana Law Institute and participated actively in the drafting of the Louisiana Mineral Code as it was adopted in 1975. He was a life-time Fellow of the Louisiana Bar Foundation. He also served on the Board of Directors of the then Caddo-Bossier Legal Aid Society. Bob maintained his membership in the American Bar Association throughout his career and was a member of the American Judicature Society. Over the course of years he delivered countless scholarly papers on mineral law issues at the LSU Mineral Law Institute, the Arkansas Oil and Gas Institute and the American Association of Petroleum Landmen, as well as many other groups.

A man of faith, Bob served on the Vestry of St. Marks Episcopal Cathedral and on the St. Marks Day School Board. He also served on the Board of Trustees of Southfield School. In the broader community, he served as chair of the Legal Division for the United Way, was a member of the Board of Family Counseling and Children's Services and was appointed as a Citizens Advisory Committee Member to the historic 1968 Peabody Report on Caddo Parish Schools.

He gave back to LSU, serving as President of the LSU Law Alumni Association and was a founding Member of the Chancellor's Council. Bob was also the driving force behind the creation of the Blanchard, Walker, O'Quin & Roberts Scholarship at the LSU Law Center, awarded each year to a deserving student from the northwest Louisiana area.

Bob also enjoyed the lighter side of life and cherished time with family and friends, sculpturing elaborate sand castles and flying his large variety of kites at his beach home at Navarre Beach, Florida, where he always few the American flag, the State flag of Louisiana, and an LSU banner.

Bob was preceded in death by his son, Robert Roberts, IV and is survived by his wife, Susan Forrester Kalmbach Roberts and his children, Campbell Marshall Roberts, Francis T. (Terry) Kalmbach, Jr., Ellen Kalmbach Tizian, Lewis Kalmbach and Samuel A. Kalmbach, fourteen grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Attorney, soldier, scholar, participant in civic affairs, Bob Roberts' life offers inspiration to those new attorneys being recognized here today and confirmation of all that those more steeped in bar membership hold proud.

There was a man who was tall of stature; large of heart; highly talented; devoted to family; a lover of baseball, and particularly the St. Louis Cardinals; an avid fan of the LSU Tigers and of the Law School of that institution. There was a man with a ready smile, social graces and a genteel spirit, but with a true sense of dedication, who cared about assisting others and who gave freely of his time to many, many causes. There was a man of integrity and a sense of duty, a man who made his life matter.

In honor of that man, Robert Roberts III, and on behalf of the Shreveport Bar Association, I submit this memorial to his lasting memory, and respectfully 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 28th day of October, 2010, in Shreveport, Caddo Parish, Louisiana.

John T. Cox, Jr.