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E. J. Jeter
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IN MEMORIAM
HAROLD D. VAUGHT

TO THE HONORABLE JUDGES OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, MEMBERS OF THE BAR, MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY OF HAROLD VAUGHT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

It's a privilege for me to stand before you to honor the memory of Harold Vaught, a man I admired greatly. He was a devoted family man---having carried on a 39 year love affair with his wife, Mae. Together they had three children, Becky, Randy and Mark. They were further blessed to have two beautiful granddaughters named Brandy and Lacey. Harold spoke often of his wife and family. His love and pride of them was as obvious in his expression as in the words he spoke.

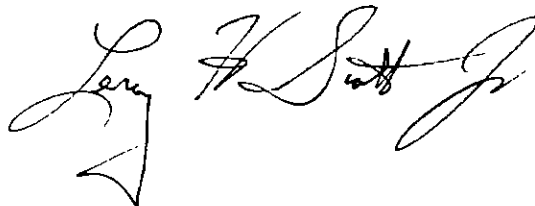
A devout couple, Harold and Mae were active members of Noel Methodist Church. Harold's values were quietly apparent in the manner in which he conducted himself personally and professionally. Having known Harold for almost thirty (30) years, and having practiced law with him early in his career and then again during the past few years, I can unequivocally state that Harold never gained a dollar at the expense of his integrity. His legal ability, thoroughness and integrity made him a man all of us in the legal community could look up to.

Harold D. Vaught was born August 1, 1925. He worked in the hotel business at the Washington-Youree Hotel while attending Centenary College, and eventually worked his way up to the position of assistant manager. Upon completion of his studies at Centenary, Harold attended Louisiana State University, where he obtained his legal education. Although he was admitted to the bar in July, 1948, Harold elected to return to the hotel management business and became manager of the Charleston Hotel in Lake Charles.

In 1963, Harold hung out his shingle and went into the practice of law in Shreveport. He shared office space with the late Jim Jeter and after his death shared office space with me for several years. Being a compassionate man, Harold saw a need for legal representation for the area's poor and needy. As a result, Harold eventually joined up with the Northwest Louisiana Legal Services. He was of great help to the disadvantaged. He

worked hard and provided quality representation. Thus, as throughout his legal career, he was a good advocate. Harold's skills were soon recognized and he rose to the position of assistant director. He helped train many young lawyers who worked in the office and took pride in their accomplishments as they grew professionally. Upon leaving Legal Aid, Harold resumed private practice and again shared office space with me. The greater flexibility afforded by private practice allowed Harold the chance to spend more time with his friends and family. He had a marvelous ability to go to the library and find a case or statute directly on point.

I will always remember Harold as a good friend---quick with a smile or a word of encouragement, appreciative of a good joke and a delightful, though dry, sense of humor. Besides being a good lawyer, he was a compassionate man---His personal code of conduct was such as to qualify him as a true gentleman in any era of history. We will miss him very much.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Leroy H. Smith Jr." The signature is written in black ink and is positioned in the lower right quadrant of the page.