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Memorial to

HENRY CLAY WALKER, JR.

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October 12, 1885 - December 31, 1963

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Presented to the First Judicial District Court of Louisiana in and for Caddo Parish by the undersigned Committee designated by the President of the Shreveport Bar Association to prepare and submit a resolution in memory of the late Henry Clay Walker, Jr., of Shreveport, a member of the Bar of this Court and of this Association.

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Henry Clay Walker, Jr. was born at Columbia, Louisiana, in Caldwell Parish, on October 12, 1885, the son of Henry Clay Walker and Margaret Zoe Redditt. He died on December 31, 1963 in Shreveport, the place of his distinguished career, where he had lived since 1914.

Henry Walker's parents moved to Homer, in Claiborne Parish, when he was a small child, and his boyhood was spent there. The customs of the time and place, and of his family, included, for him, a firm discipline, a share in the family's labors, and an acquaintance with the classics. These habits of his boyhood marked him in his maturity with outstanding qualities of courage, industry and decisive

action. He attended college at Vanderbilt University, where he received his academic degree and graduated with distinction from the Law School of Louisiana State University in 1910. His college career included participation in inter-collegiate athletics; and he assisted with the expenses of his education by spending a year before entering law school as football coach and mathematics instructor at a boys' preparatory school in Terrell, Texas, and by teaching undergraduate mathematics at L. S. U. while attending law school.

After his admission to the bar, he practiced law in Homer for several years as a junior partner of Judge J. E. Moore. A few years after he came to Shreveport in 1914, he entered into a partnership with Governor Newton C. Blanchard and Elias Goldstein; Leon O'Quin and Arthur O'Quin a few years later joined the partnership, which continued until the time of his death under the name of Blanchard, Goldstein, Walker & O'Quin, with younger lawyers from time to time being brought into the firm.

His career at the bar was marked by his versatility and the distinction he achieved in seemingly unrelated areas of the practice of our profession. He appeared in almost all of the early cases involving oil and gas law and was one of the small group of Louisiana lawyers who, in the early 1920's, shaped our mineral law. Later, he represented important business clients in financial and reorganization proceedings

and litigation, and was particularly active in anti-trust litigation, appearing successfully a very few years before his death in an important anti-trust case. In addition to his success as an advocate, he was rightfully considered pre-eminent as a counselor and he served for many years as counsel for and a director of several important business enterprises; his reputation in this field was attested by the fact that he was for many years before his death included in the roster of distinguished Americans in "Who's Who in America."

Henry Walker achieved unusual distinction in a long career and it is fitting in this memorial to refer to the qualities of his character and personality which made him outstanding. He was a man of courage and of action - he never turned back from doing with the utmost energy and dispatch what he decided should be done. And it was seldom that his learning, his industry and his sound common sense and experience did not guide him to the right course of action. It is hardly necessary to add, concerning a man and a lawyer of his type, that he was intensely loyal to his clients, his friends and associates, and to his family. Finally, there is one aspect of his career that in some ways, perhaps, was the most important of all. In his long and busy professional life he had more opportunities than most lawyers have, as a senior, to train, to influence and to counsel and sustain many younger associates, and he never failed to give of his time to his younger associates and friends. Some of these men have themselves gained distinction in the profession

and all have benefitted immeasurably from his example and his counsel. He has left a lasting mark on the bar of Louisiana.

He was an honorary member of the Order of the Coif and had accepted membership also in Phi Delta Phi and Phi Kappa Phi. He had served as president of the Shreveport Bar Association and in many other branches of the work of the organized bar; for many years he was a member of the Board of Advisory Editors of the Tulane Law Review.

All his life Henry Walker was interested and active in many outdoor sports and was an outstanding wing shot and a tireless hunter until he was seventy-five years of age. He had served as president of the Shreveport Country Club, the Shreveport Riding Club and the Shreveport Skeet Club. He was a long-time member of the Presbyterian Church and served for many years on the official board of the First Presbyterian Church of Shreveport.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Lurline Graham Walker, by two daughters, Mrs. Ben F. Brian and Mrs. Lewis S. Robinson, Jr., and their four sons, and by two other grandchildren, Henry C. Walker IV and Frances Alston Walker, children of his son Henry who lost his life in the Second World War.

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the members of the Shreveport Bar Association, hereby express the admiration and regard in which we held Henry Clay Walker, Jr., for his character and ability, his industry and skill, and his exemplification of the advocate and counselor at his best; and we extend to his family our sincere sympathy in their loss.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this memorial and resolution be made a part of the records of this Court and that copies of the record hereof be delivered to the members of the family of our departed brother and friend.

Benjamin C. Dawkins, Jr.

Robert Roberts, Jr.

F. Leonard Hargrove

Charles H. Blish

Leon O'Quin, Chairman.

Shreveport, Louisiana,
21 September, 1964.