

MEMORIAL TO
HOLLINGSWORTH BLANCHARD BARRET

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W. S. - J. J. J.
Deputy Clerk

Hollingsworth Blanchard Barret, lawyer, advocate, citizen and soldier, was born in Shreveport on August 17, 1893, and died in Shreveport on February 20, 1964. He was a man of many facets who appreciated the pleasures and opportunities of each passing moment too much to be hurried or rushed. He was like the Epicurean carefully tasting each morsel of food and the connoisseur of fine wines fully enjoying every sip. Yet he filled the 70 years of his life with a multitude of accomplishments in a wide variety of fields: More than most of us could achieve in twice the time.

He was the son of Thomas C. and Lillian Hollingsworth Barret. His father was a prominent Shreveport attorney who served his district and state both as State Senator and Lieutenant-Governor. As a young man Holly, as he was popularly and affectionately known throughout his life, led an adventurous life. He raced a motorcycle up Pike's Peak and established a record, with the machine blazing, which has never been broken. With Cyrus Steere of Shreveport he drove a Chalmers automobile to the West Coast, when that was virtually an impossible feat. On the West Coast he joined a nationally known Methodist Choir and later sang in light opera. When money was short he wrote and sold stories for newspapers and magazines. A graduate of West Texas and Sewanee Military Academies he volunteered in the United States Army when our nation entered World War I, and was graduated from the first Officers' Training School at Fort Logan H. Roots, in Little Rock, Arkansas, with the rank of Second Lieutenant. He served with three separate machine gun battalions in combat duty in France and rose to the rank of Captain before his discharge in March, 1919.

The following autumn he entered Columbia University School of Law in New York City with his friend and future law partner Pike Hall. He later

returned to Louisiana to complete his legal schooling at Tulane University in New Orleans. Following his admission to the Louisiana Bar in 1923 he entered practice in the City of Shreveport and later formed the firm of Foster, Hall, Barret and Smith in partnership with Pike Hall and Marion K. Smith.

During this time Holly Barret resumed his military service with the Louisiana National Guard in which he rose to the rank of Colonel. With Guy Rich he prepared a manual on the 30 caliber machine gun for the United States Army. He had considerable mechanical aptitude which was illustrated by several mechanical improvements which he made upon the machine gun. He resumed his interest in sports and with his brother William M. Barret on at least two occasions won the Shreveport Tennis Doubles Championship. He was called into active service with the National Guard during the 1927 floods and on several other occasions involving shorter duty. He attended the summer encampments regularly.

He was a scholar who remembered virtually everything he read, and his reading knew no bounds. He loved History, especially if it told of heroic resistance to superior force, which fitted him well as the grandson of a Lieutenant Colonel in the Confederate Army. He was equally at home with aristocrats and tenant farmers, with Generals and Privates, in the boxing ring where he loved to spar and in the most formal society. He was loved by the Negroes on the family plantation and he carefully attended to their needs, jesting nevertheless that Mr. Lincoln had failed to complete the job and free the white people as he did the Negroes.

He was a wonderful story teller, a descendant from men who were of the bright little island of the Eastern end of the Western ocean; and he took as much pride (maybe more) in his Irish paternal ancestors as he did in the

sterner members of his family who hailed from Scotland or England; perhaps it was because of the suffering of the former, and because they appreciated life more.

He believed in discipline, but was seldom if ever harsh. He cultivated a disciplined mind; a cultured, hence disciplined, manner; and a religious, necessarily disciplined spirit. He was at home in his study and in the conflicts on the battlefield. In line with military strictness is mathematics; and after a number of years of general practice he turned to tax law with its intricacies of figures and expressions.

He was devoted to his family. To his wife and son, to his mother, his father, his sister and brothers. He was a devoted and sincere friend, and was particularly helpful to young lawyers and young soldiers serving beneath him. He served upon important committees of the Louisiana Bar Association and as President of the Shreveport Bar Association. He wrote several articles for the Tulane Law Review.

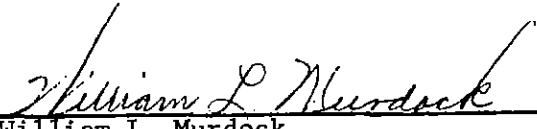
He enjoyed silence and solitude; he climbed Pike's Peak for recreation. Yet he had a love for humanity and knowledge. He interested himself in public affairs, but sought neither profit nor honor there. His fellows at the bar respected his ability; Judges listened to him; clients did not desert him. His friends loved him.

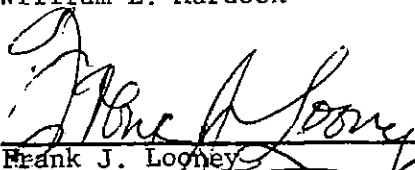
There was in him a similarity to Dante in his recognition of life as a divine comedy. Had Dante known him he would probably have immortalized him for his humility and his ability to climb a mountain leading to Paradise. We salute him and hope to do so again in Eternity.

To his widow Durelle Morehead Barret, his sister Lillian Barret Smitherman, his brother William M. Barret, all of Shreveport, his son Thomas H. Barret of The Hague, and his two grandchildren Rebecca Ann and Sarah

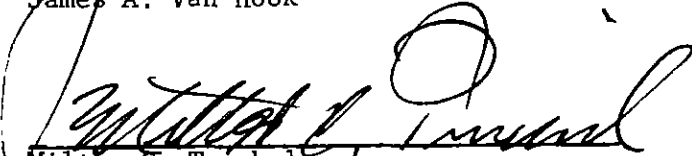
Gilbeau of Lafayette, we extend our sympathy and condolence and share with them their pride in having known and loved him.

Respectfully submitted,


William L. Murdock


Frank J. Looney


James A. Van Hook


Milton C. Trichel