

FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
CADDO PARISH, LOUISIANA

FILED

OCT 30 1989

Eber P. Hargrove
DEPUTY CLERK

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

FOR

IRA MARION AVENT

Ira Avent departed this life in Shreveport on May 20, 1989, having been born in Bexar County, Texas, on August 1, 1888. Few members of this bar who knew him personally were aware that he had passed the 100 year mark in his latter days, for he continued to participate actively in many church and civic affairs. Hani Dehan, for instance, as Chairman of the Ushers Committee at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, on which Mr. Avent served, became somewhat concerned that Mr. Avent was walking more slowly than his cohorts when carrying the collection plate to the altar; he called the Avent home to inquire whether he could pick up the pace a bit in the future, and Mrs. Avent, who happened to answer the phone, explained it was because of his age; Hani, believing Mr. Avent to be a reasonably close contemporary of the group, asked just how old he was, and was stunned to learn he had passed the 100th year milestone.

Ira spent his early years working for Sims Oil Company, managing oil field offices in and around Odessa, Texas, with time out from 1917 to 1919 to serve as a lieutenant in the United States Army Air Corps. In 1930 he was employed by United Gas Corporation in Houston to work in its tax department, and by 1932 had become Tax Administrator for its Income Tax Department. When United Gas returned to Shreveport in 1940 Ira came with them, and in due course became a CPA and a member of the Tax Institute of Shreveport; over the succeeding years he served on many industry-wide tax committees, and assisted sundry states in revising their corporate tax laws pertaining both to oil and gas operations and to other fields of business activity.

Ira's retirement from United Gas in 1953 at age 65 led not to idleness but to a new and expanded professional career. He studied law at home and passed the Bar exam on his first attempt, and combined legal and tax work, much of it as a consultant to Texas Eastern Transmission Corporation (with whose then president he had been closely associated when both were at United Gas).

In addition to his business, legal and church activities, Ira was a dedicated Rotarian, as evidenced by his 96% attendance record in 1988 and his honors as a Paul Harris Fellow; he also was a Mason and member of El Karubah Shrine, and lifetime member of the Salvation Army Advisory Board. His dedicated service to all such organizations will be sorely missed.

Shreveport, Louisiana
October 30, 1989

Ray A. Barlow
Ray A. Barlow

Ben E. Coleman
Ben E. Coleman

R. Clyde Hargrove
R. Clyde Hargrove, Chairman