

SHREVEPORT BAR ASSOCIATION
MEMORIAL TO JUSTICE PIKE HALL, JR.

OCTOBER 26, 2000

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Amie Doughty
DEPUTY CLERK

MAY IT PLEASE THE COURT:

Distinguished guests, family members and friends. Justice Pike Hall, Jr. was born in Shreveport on May 27, 1931 to State Senator Pike Hall and Hazel Tucker Hall. He attended public schools in Shreveport and graduated from C. E. Byrd High School. After attending Washington and Lee University, he received his BA degree from L.S.U. and his Juris Doctor degree from L.S.U. Law Center in 1953.

Pike was a third generation lawyer in this area. His father was a member of the firm of Foster, Hall, Barrett and Smith and was the first president of what we now know as the Louisiana State Bar Association. Pike's paternal grandfather, Judge William Pike Hall, served as Judge of the Eleventh Judicial District Court for many years in the late 1800's.

Pike was proud of the careers of his father and grandfather. In fact, when he entered law school and indicated why he wanted to attend, he wrote, "Law is a tradition in my family, as my father and his father before him were lawyers. Law has always interested me, and I wish to make a career of it." What a career he made!

Pike practiced law in Shreveport for 17 years and was a partner in the firm of Wilkinson, Woods, Carmody, Meadows and Hall. In 1970, he was elected to the Louisiana Second Circuit Court of Appeal and served as Chief Judge of that court from 1984 until his election as Associate Justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court in 1990. He retired from the Supreme Court on December 31, 1994 and became of counsel to the firm of Blanchard, Walker, O'Quin and Roberts in Shreveport.

Judge Charles Marvin, who succeeded Pike as Chief Judge of the Second Circuit Court of Appeal, said, "Pike Hall's intellect, understanding, charm, friendliness, strength of character, has instilled in the judges of this court a strong sense of collegiality, cooperation, sincere devotion and desire to emulate his accomplishments." In recognition of Pike's outstanding accomplishments as Chief

Judge of the Second Circuit Court of Appeal, on September 29 of this year, at an impressive ceremony, the name of the Court of Appeal building was changed to the "Pike Hall Court House".

Of Pike's service on the Supreme Court, Justice Lemmon said, at Pike's retirement ceremony, "Pike is so perceptive, he's so no nonsense in his approach to his work. He's so solid in his analytical reasoning. He's so willing to listen, to offer suggestions, he's so courteous to lawyers and to his fellow judges and he is so dedicated in his sense of justice that it is really difficult to imagine being on this court without him."

Some of Pike's other accomplishments included serving as an elected member of the Caddo Parish School Board, a member of the Administrative Board of the First United Methodist Church of Shreveport, Chairman of the Judicial Budgetary Control Board during his tenure on the Supreme Court, the Board of Governors and the House of Delegates of the Louisiana State Bar Association, past chairman of the Louisiana Conference of Court of Appeal Judges, and a member of the Board of Governors and Vice-Chairman of the Louisiana Judicial College. The L.S.U. Law Center honored Pike with the highest honor they could bestow for intellectual achievement when they named him to the Order of the Coif in 1988.

Of all his outstanding accomplishments and honors, the most important event of Pike's life, occurred when he married Anne Oden. Chancellor Winston Day, of the L.S.U. Law Center, said on the occasion of Pike's retirement from the Louisiana Supreme Court, "While at L.S.U. Pike met the nicest and prettiest girl of all, and of course he married Anne Oden while she was an undergraduate and Pike was a law student." On that same occasion, after Pike expressed appreciation to the other justices of the Supreme Court and to others with whom he had served, he said "And more than anyone else in the whole world, my thanks go to my wife, Anne, whose love and devotion have meant so much to me. She's been right beside me all throughout my career. I appreciate more than I can tell her, all she's done for me. The same goes for our loving children, Brevard and Pike, who have always been an inspiration." Pike was always a devoted family man.

All of us knew Pike as an unassuming, soft spoken, modest individual with a magnetic personality that drew people to him. He was a person you enjoyed being with, always positive and pleasant, always smiling and always listening with sincere interest to whatever you said and then giving you sound counsel and advice on any issue you presented to him. People loved him!

The simple observation is that Pike excelled in and enjoyed whatever he did whether being a practitioner, or serving on the bench, or counseling with friends, or hunting and fishing, or performing acts of public service, or going to an L.S.U. football game, or playing golf, even though Anne usually beat him. He loved all these activities with a passion and he participated in them to the fullest extent possible.

Pike died on November 25, 1999 while on a hunting trip with friends. He is survived by Anne Oden Hall, his wife of 48 years, two children, Brevard Hall Knight of Shreveport and Pike Hall III of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, and five grandchildren, Kathryn, Emily and Alice Knight, Regan Hall and Pike Hall IV.

Our lives have been greatly enriched for having known Pike and we are the grateful beneficiaries of the example he set for all of us.

This memorial to Justice Pike Hall, Jr. is submitted with the request that the Court order it to be inscribed in the permanent records of the First Judicial District Court and that copies thereof be sent to the family.

Respectfully submitted,

Willis L. Meadows
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