

FILED

OCT 16 1978

In Memoriam

JUDGE ROBERT J. O'NEAL

September 27, 1887 -- August 24, 1978

[Signature]
DEPUTY CLERK

We, the undersigned committee, designated by the President of the Shreveport Bar Association to prepare and submit the resolution to the memory of the late Robert J. O'Neal, Judge of the First Judicial District Court, submit the following:

Robert J. O'Neal was born in Choudrant, Lincoln Parish, Louisiana, on September 27, 1887, the son of Robert D. and Maude Kelly O'Neal. He was educated at Northwestern State University and studied law in the office of a district judge in Vernon Parish. Judge O'Neal was admitted to the Louisiana Bar in 1911.

He served as City Clerk and City Attorney in Leesville and DeRidder, Louisiana. In 1928 he moved to Shreveport and became a member of the law firm of Long, Fields & O'Neal. From 1928 until 1936 he served as Attorney for the Tax Collector of Caddo Parish and was an Assistant State Attorney General, representing the Department of Revenue.

He became District Judge of the First Judicial District Court in 1936 and served in that capacity continuously until his retirement in 1961.

Long ago it was said by Socrates that four things belong to a judge: to hear courteously, to answer wisely, to consider soberly and to decide impartially. All of these belonged to Judge O'Neal.

The dignified manner in which he conducted the court, his sense of honor and integrity in all matters, his high standard of ethics and kindness in his relations with lawyers, litigants and witnesses were also among his outstanding qualities as a judge. The people of Caddo Parish recognized him as an outstanding jurist, and therefore he was continuously re-elected without opposition.

Judge O'Neal was a member of all Masonic bodies from first to seventh degree in York Rite, 32nd degree in Scottish Rite and El Karubah Shrine.

Judge O'Neal's services to his fellow man were not restricted to his judicial functions. He was a leader and an active participant in all work of the Methodist Church, including service on the Board of Trustees of his local churches in DeRidder and Shreveport, lay leader in the Shreveport District and Treasurer of the Louisiana Conference. He also served as Chairman of the Boards of the Salvation Army and the Association for the Blind in Shreveport.

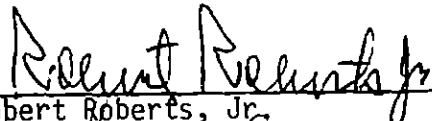
We of the Shreveport Bar who had the privilege of practicing before him shall always remember the consideration and courtesy he showed to counsel, litigants and witnesses in the course of a trial.

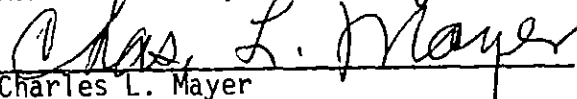
Judge Robert J. O'Neal is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Stuart DeLee of Shreveport, Louisiana, and Mrs. M. Miles Snider of Homer, Louisiana.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, of the Shreveport Bar Association, do hereby express our deep admiration and respect for the late Judge Robert J. O'Neal, whose ideals and standards of honor and justice are worthy of emulation by every member of the Bench and Bar.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we extend to the members of his family our sincere and heartfelt sympathy in his death, and that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the First Judicial District Court as a final tribute to his outstanding public service to his community and state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Memorial be delivered to the immediate members of his family.


Robert Roberts, Jr.


Charles L. Mayer


John R. Pleasant, Chairman

(Read and adopted at Memorial Exercises Monday, October 16, 1978.)