

RESOLUTION
IN MEMORY OF
THOMAS A. WILSON
August 13, 1926 - March 26, 1996

The undersigned, by appointment of the Shreveport Bar Association, submit this memorial to the memory of Thomas A. Wilson, a highly respected member of the Association, who departed this life on March 26, 1996, at the age of 69 years.

Thomas A. Wilson was born August 13, 1926, at Potters Point, Marion County, Texas, the seventh of eight children of Josiah and Minnie Wilson. Mr. Wilson grew up in this small community in East Texas and finished his high school education at Jefferson High School in Jefferson, Texas.

At the tender age of seventeen, he entered the Navy and served in the South Pacific during World War II. After serving his country, Mr. Wilson returned to the area and worked the pipeline for Gulf Oil in Mooringsport, Louisiana. He later moved to Shreveport and was the Soda Fountain

Manager for Walgreens on Texas Street and attended Meadows Draughon Business School.

Mr. Wilson served as a Shreveport Police Officer for twenty years and retiring as a Captain in 1969. During this time, he was a motorcycle cop on the beat and was Sgt. Safety for the Shreveport Police Department. He also appeared as "Officer Tommy" on the television program, Tops for Toys. Mr. Wilson was given a leave of absence from the Police Department to serve in the Marine Corp during the Korean Conflict.

While a police officer, Mr. Wilson also studied law at Centenary College. He later took the bar exam and opened his law office in 1965. During his career, he and Dean R. Veatch established the law firm of Wilson & Veatch, which became Wilson & Wilson upon Mr. Veatch's retirement. He was a mentor and friend to many young attorneys beginning their legal careers.

Mr. Wilson was well respected by his peers as a trial attorney and was known for his "folksy approach" to his courtroom presentation. His quick wit and joking manner were a trademark in the legal community.

He belonged to many local civic organizations and was particularly active as a Mason and El Karubah Shriner. For many years, he served as Chairman of the Masonic Education Committee for the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana, and was Past Master of the W. H. Booth Lodge. Mr. Wilson was also Past Commander of the American Legion Post and served as its legal advisor for several years.

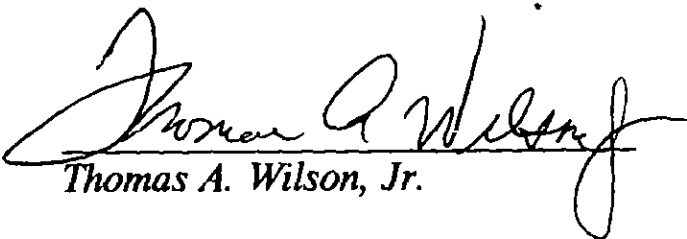
Mr. Wilson was a man of varied interests. Not only did he have a thriving law practice, his hobbies often turned into business interests as well. At one time, he owned the "Quail Palace" on Mansfield Road and, at the time of his death, he owned and operated "Scissors Hair Salon" in Shreveport. He was also active in raising and racing pigeons and was an avid duck hunter and a committee member of Ducks Unlimited Southwest Shreveport Chapter.

Mr. Wilson always said "he would rather wear out than rust out" and his last morning was spent in his office giving of his time and talents in the best interests of his clients.

Mr. Wilson was known by his peers for his unselfish love of his fellowman and it was said of Mr. Wilson that he was "the best friend a poor man ever had."

At the time of his death, Mr. Wilson was a member of Pinecroft Baptist Church. He was pre-deceased by his son, John Thomas Wilson, and is survived by his wife of 40 years, Betty Bates Wilson, his children – Thomas A. Wilson, Jr., Autumn Marie Morningstar, Madeline Elizabeth Wilson, five grandchildren and three brothers, and a host of other friends and relatives.

THUS DONE for the Shreveport Bar Association this 24th day of October, 1996.


Thomas A. Wilson, Jr.

Dean R. Veatch



Tommy K. Oryer