

MEMORIAL PREPARED AND PRESENTED BY  
THE SHREVEPORT BAR ASSOCIATION AT THE  
OPENING OF COURT, SEPTEMBER 15, 1958.  
IN MEMORY OF WILLIAM WALTON McDONALD,  
DECEASED, LATE OF THE SHREVEPORT BAR.

FILED

SEP 15 1958

*C. H. [Signature]*  
CLERK

WILLIAM WALTON McDONALD died in Lafayette, Louisiana, on June 24, 1958. He practiced law at the Shreveport Bar for 37 years. Prior to that he was a member of the Webster and Bossier Parish Bars where he was active as a lawyer from his graduation from Tulane University in 1907 until 1920.

Mr. McDonald was born in Waxahachie, Texas, on October 11, 1885, and was taken to Minden, Louisiana, by his parents when he was a child. His father was the late Charles E. McDonald, the first District Judge of Webster Parish, Louisiana.

On both sides of his house, Mr. McDonald sprung from people prominently identified with the affairs of their respective communities.

Mr. McDonald had extraordinary qualities as a public speaker. During his practice in Bossier and Webster Parishes, he was much in demand as a public speaker and also on public occasions in Shreveport, Louisiana. In this later and supposedly wiser time, the art of public speaking is less esteemed than it was formerly, but it must not be forgotten that the

art of public speaking and oratory was a part of the equipment of the people that built the United States.

From the time that Mr. McDonald entered the practice of law, he was continually active; but his experience in the law in the usual sense of monetary results was probably less than would be expected from a person of his talents as a lawyer, which were admittedly of a high order. His failure to translate these talents into money stemmed from the fact, probably, that he was constantly an espouser of causes touching moral and social issues but were not money-making in their nature. However, Mr. McDonald was connected with a number of celebrated cases during his life as a lawyer. He taught a number of us what a "newspaper" was in a judicial sense, to our discomfort. In a word, Mr. McDonald contributed to the jurisprudence of Louisiana, and after all, is there any other way to rate a lawyer than in terms of his permanent contribution to the jurisprudence?

During his later life, Mr. McDonald was in ill health and he died at the age of 72 at the home of his daughter, Mrs. A. P. Dufilho in Lafayette, Louisiana. In addition to Mrs. Dufilho, he was survived by one son, William C. McDonald, also of Lafayette, and by a brother, Charles E. McDonald of Meridian, Mississippi, a number of grandchildren and one great grandchild.

The Shreveport Bar Association does make this a record of its respect for William Walton McDonald's integrity, his ability, his earnestness and for his undoubted courage in maintaining what he believed in.

FOR THE SHREVEPORT BAR ASSOCIATION

Newton B. Carstarphen  
Newton B. Carstarphen, Chairman

L. L. Lockard  
L. L. Lockard

John R. Pleasant  
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