

MEMORIAL TO

WILTON H. WILLIAMS, JR.

December 29, 1920 - December 11, 1975

Presented to the First Judicial District Court of Louisiana in and for Caddo Parish by the undersigned Committee designated by the President of the Shreveport Bar Association to prepare and submit a resolution in memory of the late Wilton H. Williams, Jr. of Shreveport, a member of the Bar of this Court and of this Association.

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Wilton H. Williams, Jr. was born in Shreveport, Louisiana, on December 29, 1920, the son of Wilton H. Williams and his wife, Freddye Harrell Williams. He died on December 11, 1975, in Shreveport, Louisiana, at the age of 54. He was a life long resident of Shreveport, Louisiana, where he practiced law with success and distinction.

He attended Creswell Street School for his early education and then entered Byrd High School, from which he graduated at the early age of 15, with membership in the National Honor Society. He then attended Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge from 1936 to 1940, receiving a Bachelor of Science Degree.

After graduation from Louisiana State University in 1940, he worked for United Gas Pipe Line Company as an Accounting Clerk during the years 1940 and 1941.

In 1941 he entered the military service as a Second Lieutenant, serving in the U. S. Army's 806th Tank Destroyer Battalion until 1946, at which time he was discharged with the rank of Major. His overseas duties were served in the South Pacific, including the Philippines.

After his discharge from the Army he married Felice Hicks on September 30, 1946 and she survives him.

Following his military service he joined the National Cash Register Company before entering Louisiana State University Law School in 1947. At law school he served as Associate Editor of the Louisiana Law Review in 1948 and 1949. He graduated from Louisiana State University Law School second in his class and was admitted to practice before the Louisiana Supreme Court in 1950. He practiced his first two years in association with the late Charles H. Blish. Mr. Williams joined the law firm of Blanchard, Walker, O'Quin & Roberts on October 16, 1952, where he remained as a partner until the time of his death. He was admitted to practice in all State Courts in Louisiana, in both the Eastern and Western U. S. District Courts in Louisiana and the Fifth U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

He was a member of the Order of the Coif, the highest scholastic honor awarded to a law school student. He was also a member of Phi Delta Phi National Legal Fraternity. He held membership in the Louisiana Association of Defense Counsel, Lowe-McFarlane American Legion Post, Petroleum Club of Shreveport, and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

He became well known to the entire Bar of the State of Louisiana as an outstanding trial lawyer in his specialty, which was personal injury litigation, generally representing liability insurance carriers. A devoted student of the law and possessed of a perceptive and analytical mind, Bill, the name by which he was best known, enjoyed a successful law practice which was characterized principally by thorough and untiring preparation of his cases, an extraordinary ability to cope with the unexpected, a sincere respect for the courts, courtesy toward opposing counsel, and a truly genteel manner.

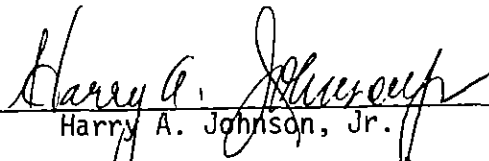
He was an avid sportsman. When he had occasion to take off from his work he would invariably go duck hunting or fishing. Occasionally he would take off two or three days to make trips to West Texas to participate in dove hunting trips with his friends who lived out there. Although he did not actively engage in high school and college athletics, he closely followed the various teams of his old schools, and particularly the L.S.U. Football Tigers. He took his sporting activities as seriously as he did his work as a lawyer.

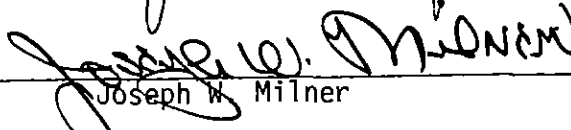
He was a long-time member of the First Methodist Church of Shreveport, Louisiana.

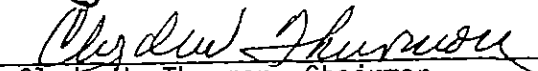
Survivors include the widow, Mrs. Felice Hicks Williams; two sons, Wilton H. Williams III of Baton Rouge, and Gregory E. Williams of Shreveport; one daughter, Mrs. Wayne L. Terry of Round Rock, Texas; his mother, Mrs. Freddye Harrell Williams of Shreveport; a sister, Mrs. A. L. Hogan of Houston, Texas; and one grandchild, Jenifer Felice Terry.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the members of the Shreveport Bar Association, hereby affirm the respect, the admiration and the regard in which we held Wilton H. Williams, Jr. for his character and ability, his industry, skill and learning, and for his example of the lawyer at his best; and we extend to his wife, children, mother, sister and other members of his family our sincere sympathy in their loss.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that this memorial and resolution be made a part of the records of this Court, and that copies of the record hereof be delivered to the members of the family of our departed brother and friend.

  
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Harry A. Johnson, Jr.

  
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Joseph W. Milner

  
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Clyde W. Thurmon, Chairman.

Shreveport, Louisiana  
7 September 1976