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TO THE HONORABLE JUDGES OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, IN AND FOR THE PARISH OF CADDO, STATE OF LOUISIANA:

A. L. Douthett
DEPUTY CLERK

The undersigned having been appointed as a Committee for that purpose submit the following in memory of the late Albert T. Hughes, Jr.:

Albert Taylor Hughes, Jr., was born April 1, 1915, the son of the late Albert Taylor Hughes, Sr., and Mrs. Rubie McCook Hughes of Lake End, Louisiana. He received his preparatory education in the public schools of Louisiana and attended college at the Louisiana Polytechnic Institute from which institution he received his B. A. degree in 1934. He entered the law school of Louisiana State University in the fall of 1934, and received his LL. B. degree therefrom in 1937, graduating as valedictorian of his class.

Immediately following his admission to the Bar in July of 1937, he joined the Shreveport firm of Cook, Cook & Egan and remained with that firm and its successor, Cook, Lee, Clark & Egan, until July 4, 1942, when he entered the United States Navy.

Integrity, conscientious effort and exceptional ability characterized his brief career at the Bar. His sound educational background, his almost limitless capacity for hard work, and his keen mind would have brought him to the top ranks of his profession, but for his tragic death at his post of duty as Communications Officer of the U. S. S. Twiggs on June 16, 1945. During the five years of his practice he acquired a reputation for ability and integrity unsurpassed by that of any other attorney of comparable age and experience in his community.

Prior to Pearl Harbor Mr. Hughes joined the United States Naval Reserve, and on July 4, 1942, was called to active duty as an apprentice seaman and assigned to the Naval Training School at Notre Dame University. He remained at Notre Dame for thirty days, after which he was appointed Midshipman and assigned to the Naval Training School at Northwestern University. On October 30, 1942, he received his commission as Ensign in the United States Naval Reserve and on that date was married to Miss Hazel Turner of Shreveport, Louisiana, the daughter of Mrs. Sidney Turner and the late Sidney Turner of the same City, who survives him.

The same qualities which brought him success in the practice of law were responsible for the fact that when he received his commission as an Ensign, he stood among the first fifteen of a class which had originally contained more than thirteen hundred officer candidates. Because of his record at Northwestern University he was advised of the fact that an appointment as instructor at that school was available, but expressed a preference for active service. The fact that he spent twenty-two months at sea as a Line Officer, was twice promoted, and had he survived would have been entitled to wear eight battle stars, is sufficient evidence of the courage and ability with which he served his country.

After receiving his commission as an Ensign, Mr. Hughes was assigned to the destroyer Taylor as Assistant Communications Officer and served on that ship, first as Assistant Communications Officer, and later as Communications Officer, from December, 1942, until September, 1943. While on the Taylor he took part in the sensational rescue of the survivors of the cruiser Helena, and participated in the series of Naval engagements officially designated as the Solomon Islands Campaign, earning four battle stars.

In September, 1943, he was transferred to the destroyer Twiggs which had not then been

commissioned, and he served on the Twiggs from the fall of 1943 until its sinking on June 16, 1945.

He was commissioned Lieutenant (junior grade) on January 1, 1944, and commissioned Lieutenant on May 1, 1945.

While serving as Communications Officer of the Twiggs Lieutenant Hughes participated in the following engagements:

- (1) The capture and occupation of Saipan;
- (2) The capture and occupation of Tinian;
- (3) The Leyte Operation;
- (4) The Mindoro Landings;
- (5) The Lingayen Gulf Landings;
- (6) The Assault and Occupation of Iwo Jima; and
- (7) The Assault and Occupation of Okinawa.

It was in the later operation that the Twiggs was sunk, with great loss of personnel, on the eighty-fourth day of its participation. Lieutenant Hughes was among the eighteen of the ship's twenty-one officers who did not survive.

The untimely passing of this able young man is not only a source of grief to his

family and friends, but is a very real loss to the Bar of Louisiana, and to the community in which he lived.

Edward S. Robertson

John A. Richardson

Charles D. Egan