

Memorial to

JUDGE CHRIS T. BARNETTE

April 20, 1905 - April 11, 1982

Presented to the First Judicial District Court of Louisiana 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 Chris T. Barnette, a member of the Court and a member of this Association.

On April 11, 1982, Judge Chris T. Barnette, died in Shreveport, following a brief illness. He is survived by his wife, Emily Sue Cupples Barnette, three daughters, Ruth Ann Barnette Pierce, Jane Barnette Hancock, and Clara Sue Barnette Watts, and two brothers, William C. Barnette, Jr., and A. Nelson Barnette.

Chris Barnette was born in Arcadia, Louisiana, on April 20, 1905, the son of the late Judge William C. Barnette and Eula Yarborough Barnette. In 1915, the family moved to Shreveport where he grew up and remained a lifelong resident.

The loss of Chris Barnette is felt far beyond the bounds of our city and parish. He was a man who did not seek headlines but had a keen sense of duty to public service and made good use of the tools he was endowed with.

A 1925 graduate of Centenary College, Chris Barnette will long be remembered for his generosity and service to the school. A former trustee and past president of the Alumni Association, he was named to the Alumni Hall of Fame in 1971.

A lifelong member and active in the Methodist Church, he was named outstanding layman in the Louisiana Methodist Conference and was a life member of the Noel Memorial United Methodist Church Board. He was also a life member of the Board of Trustees of the Methodist Children's Home in Ruston.

As a judge for a number of years on the Juvenile Court for Caddo Parish, he was instrumental in developing juvenile legislation in Louisiana and took part in the drafting of the Uniform Juvenile Court Act. Judge Barnette was a past president of the National Council of Juvenile Court Judges, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the National Juvenile Court Foundation, and Chairman of the Louisiana Youth Commission. He was also influential in the construction and initial operation of the Juvenile Court facility in Shreveport.

In 1964 Judge Barnette was assigned to the Louisiana Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal in New Orleans where he served until 1971. He then served a brief term by assignment on the Fourth Judicial District Court and later six months on the First Judicial District Court. After a short break, in 1975, he was assigned to and served on the First Circuit Court of Appeal in Baton Rouge for one year. In 1976, Judge Barnette was called out of retirement to serve on the Twenty-Second Judicial District Court in St. Tammany and Washington Parishes until 1977, when he again retired.

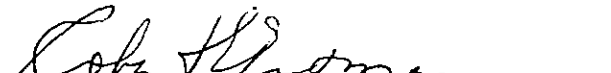
Being well acquainted with Chris Barnette, some of us for many years, we know of no other life that better exemplifies the Judeo-Christian ethic that our Western Civilization was founded upon.

Although his life was one of great accomplishment, we can affirm that his greatest legacy was intangible--his love for and devotion to his family, of whom he was most proud.


NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the members of the Shreveport Bar Association, do hereby affirm the respect, the admiration and the regard in which we hold Judge Chris T. Barnette, for his character, skill and learning and for his exemplification of the value of scholarship and service in the practice of our profession; and we extend to his wife, daughters, brothers and other members of his family our sincere sympathy in their loss.


BE IT 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.

  
Ben E. Coleman

  
Robert E. Eatman

  
John R. Pleasant

  
Robert G. Pugh

  
George E. Harp, Chairman