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MEMORIAL TO

CLYDE WALTER THURMON

FEBRUARY 21, 1913 - DECEMBER 30, 1992

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 Clyde Walter Thurmon of Shreveport, a member of the Bar of this Court and of this Association.

Clyde Walter Thurmon was born in Ruston, Louisiana, on February 21, 1913. His father was Walter Clyde Thurmon and his mother was Grizzie Grigsby Thurmon. Clyde grew up in his beloved hometown of Ruston. Throughout his life, anyone he met from Ruston was immediately accepted as a personal friend by Clyde. He graduated from Ruston High School and attended Louisiana Tech University, before entering Louisiana State University Law School. He graduated second in his class at Louisiana State University Law School in 1936 and was a member of Omicron Delta Kappa and the Order of the Coif. Clyde was admitted to the Louisiana Bar in 1936 and commenced his practice in Ruston, Louisiana. He also practiced in Baton Rouge during a brief teaching career at the Louisiana State University Law School, where he helped edit the treatise on mineral law written by Professor Harriett ("Ma") Daggett.

In 1941, Clyde joined the law firm of Blanchard, Goldstein, Walker and O'Quin in Shreveport, Louisiana, but his law practice was interrupted by his service as a Lieutenant Commander in the United States Navy during World War II from April, 1942 to January, 1946, after which he rejoined the firm. He later became a partner in the firm, which is now Blanchard, Walker, O'Quin & Roberts, where he practiced until he retired on December 31, 1982. In 1965, Clyde was President of the Shreveport Bar Association.

Clyde specialized in oil and gas law and was generally regarded statewide, and particularly in the oil and gas community, as one of the premier title attorneys in the State of Louisiana. For years, he examined titles in both North and South Louisiana for such clients as The Carter Oil Company (which became Exxon), Arkla, Texaco, Bodcaw Company, Cities Service Oil Company and Marathon Oil Company, among many others too numerous to mention. No one was loved or revered any more by his clients than was Clyde Thurmon. He would completely reread the Louisiana Civil Code once a year during most of his law practice years and could cite pertinent cases and recite the title to many lands in North Louisiana from memory. Clyde developed a phenomenal expertise in his chosen area of law practice.

Clyde was sometimes gruff in his manner, due to the seriousness and intensity with which he practiced law, but to his friends and colleagues he was well known to have a big heart. To the younger lawyers in the firm, who were always referred to by him as his "boys", Clyde was a wonderful teacher. His many friends and family will miss him.

Clyde Thurmon died on December 30, 1992, in Lake Charles, Louisiana, survived by his wife, Helen Waldmeier Thurmon, his two daughters Denise Marie Thurmon Buhler and Sherry Lynn Thurmon, his two sons, Leon Michael Thurmon and Craig Walter Thurmon, and two brothers, Dewey Thurmon and Newton Thurmon.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the members of the Shreveport Bar Association, do hereby record the respect and regard in which we held Clyde Walter Thurmon for his character, industry and skill, and for his exemplification of the value of scholarship in the practice of our profession.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this memorial resolution to Clyde Walter Thurmon be entered in the records of this Court, and that copies be delivered to the members of his family.

Winfred L. Martin
Winfred L. Martin

Gilbert L. Hetherwick
Gilbert L. Hetherwick

Marlin Risinger, Jr.
Marlin Risinger, Jr.

Wm. Timothy Allen III
Wm. Timothy Allen III, Chairman