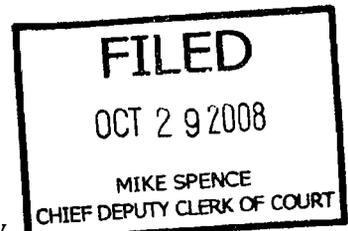


Memorial Comments for
David Baer Klotz
Presented at the Memorial and Recognition Ceremony
Held by the First Judicial District Court
October 29, 2007
Under the Auspices of the Shreveport Bar Association



MAY IT PLEASE THE COURT:

Your Honors, families and friends of those remembered here today, fellow members of the bar:

David Baer Klotz, a unique and simply unforgettable man, passed from this life in Shreveport on June 20 of this year, after a brief illness. David is survived by his wife, Gwen, four children, Stephen, Phillip, Michele and Michael, six grandchildren and one great grandchild each of whom were very special to him, his sister, Caroline Masur, a nephew, Sam Masur, a niece, Betty Habshey, and legions of dear friends too many to count.

David was born in Monroe on May 27, 1927. However, he insisted that he and his parents return immediately to south Louisiana, to their hometown of Napoleonville, which they did and where David spent his early years, graduating from Napoleonville High School in 1943. David then did something that all who knew him never clearly understood - he entered the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, notwithstanding that from childhood David was an avid LSU Tiger fan. David had grown up accompanying his father, Sam Klotz, who was mayor of Napoleonville for twenty-seven years, to Baton Rouge on Saturdays during the fall when the Tigers were playing at home.

I understand that it was David's mother, Hylda, who insisted that David pursue his college education somewhere other than LSU for fear that the partying in Baton Rouge might be more than young David could handle. I expect Mrs. Klotz made a very wise decision.

David spent one year at Alabama and then secured a late spot in "America's Greatest Generation" by joining the United States Army as World War II ended, serving from 1944

through 1946. Following his stint in the service, David returned to Alabama for two additional years of undergraduate study and then entered LSU Law School, finally becoming a student at the university that was dear to his heart and which would influence most of his waking hours, especially during football season, for the rest of his life. After a year at LSU, Alabama awarded David a Bachelor of Science in Business and Pre-Law. Upon graduation from law school in 1951, David again did something that most who knew him never would have anticipated - he moved to Shreveport, leaving south Louisiana behind as he began his legal career.

David took a position in the law department of United Gas Pipeline Company and Union Producing Company which at that time were headquartered in Shreveport in the building located on the corner of Jordan and Fairfield which now serves as the Louisiana State Office Building. David's law practice was molded by his early years with United Gas where he became an accomplished pipeline regulatory lawyer. During that time, he frequently appeared before the Federal Power Commission in Washington, D. C.

In the mid 1960s, United Gas announced its intention to move its home offices to Houston and David determined that his adopted home, Shreveport, wasn't so bad after all. David decided to stay put in Shreveport rather than go to Houston and, as David put it, that's when "I came downtown" meaning, in David-speak, when he left United Gas and began private practice here in downtown Shreveport, just across the street in the Lane Building. In 1967, David joined join a group of lawyers that became the firm of Bodenheimer, Jones, Klotz and Simmons. He practiced with that firm or its successors until his death.

David was an excellent lawyer. He was meticulous in the way in which he prepared, brilliant in theory, and articulate and quick witted in the presentation of his client's position to the court. David's obvious talent was apparent to all with whom and against whom he practiced, as well as the

judges before whom he appeared. David was an active member of the Shreveport Bar Association serving as its President in 1996, and as President of the Harry V. Booth Inns of Court from 1998 to 2000. David could do more, different things well than any lawyer I have known in my almost forty years of practicing law. David's background with United Gas exposed him to the natural resources side of law practice, and once he entered the private practice he fully developed that expertise becoming one of the most respected oil and gas lawyers in town. David's abilities extended well beyond that one area of law practice, however. He was capable in wills and estates and enjoyed a practice in that field for much of his career. David was an accomplished trial lawyer. A year ago this month David concluded what would become his last, major trial. It was here in this courthouse. Those who talked to David often, which includes most everyone he knew since as we all know David was a prodigious talker, heard about that lawsuit almost every time a discussion took place since it didn't turn out as he thought it should.

With apologies to David, I think it fair to say, that he could drive you crazy if you were his adversary (or, even on occasion, if you were not), but he did so with grace and good humor. He was never condescending or arrogant - to the contrary - he was always the consummate gentlemen.

While David was a fine lawyer, it was not the law that defined David as a person. He was much more. David cared for his family first and foremost. He was a devoted husband to Gwen for 34 years, a dedicated father and grandfather, and he was, I suggest without fear of contradiction, a great, dear friend to many, many people. David was a "people person". He never met a stranger, nor was he ever at a loss for words. I recall talking to David on an occasion several years ago when he told me he was going to the SEC Championship game in Atlanta by himself. I said something to the effect that going alone didn't sound like much fun to me, to which David replied: "That's no problem, I'll know of lots of people there." And I bet he did.

While on occasion David could appear gruff, a bit of a curmudgeon, he had a heart of solid gold. If you needed a friend, you could count on David. And David was fun and made life fun for everyone with whom he came in contact. I'm confident that David had more fun on most days of his life than many people have in a lifetime. It has been said that "Every man dies. But not every man really lives". That could never be said about David Klotz. He lived with great gusto and brought us all along for the ride.

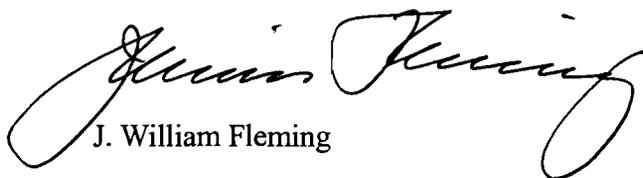
David touched a lot of people in his 81 plus years and made life better for all who knew him and invariably loved him. He was an enigmatic personality - he was complex yet at the same time very simple, he was studious and hard working but when it came time to relax and have fun he was the life of the party. David was most interesting person I have ever known - he was truly a man for the ages.

I can still see David - as I expect many of you can - walking along in downtown Shreveport with his gray hair standing straight up on his head - appearing to defy gravity. I never understood that phenomenon, but I'm sure all of us who knew David have witnessed it.

When one's time comes if it could be said that he has had a positive, lasting effect on the lives of others, that would be a wonderful tribute. That is certainly David's legacy. I am grateful to have known him and, I believe, a better person for the privilege of being able to call David my friend. He will be missed.

I am honored to offer this memorial to the life and memory of David Baer Klotz, and move that it be filed and made a part of the permanent record of the First Judicial District Court, and that copies be delivered to David's family and forwarded to the Louisiana Supreme Court for further recordation as appropriate.

Respectfully Submitted,


J. William Fleming