



MEMORIAL FOR
GILBERT LEWIS HETHERWICK
PRESENTED AT THE MEMORIAL AND RECOGNITION CEREMONY
HELD IN THE FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
October 29, 2008
UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE
SHREVEPORT BAR ASSOCIATION

MAY IT PLEASE THE COURT:

Honorable Judges, Family Members, Friends and Fellow Members of the Bar:

Gilbert Lewis Hetherwick was born on October 30, 1920 in Winnsboro, Louisiana, to Septimus and Addie Gilbert Hetherwick. The family moved to Shreveport in early 1921, where Gilbert lived for the rest of his life. He actually grew up down the street from where I live on Oneonta Street in Shreveport. He passed away at the age of 87 on April 8, 2008 after a long battle with Multiple Myeloma. He was predeceased by his parents, his sister June Harriet Hetherwick Winegeart and both of his wives, Elizabeth Cook Hetherwick, whom he married after the death of his first wife, and his first wife, Joan Friend Gibbons Hetherwick. He is survived by his five children, Janet Hetherwick Pumphrey, Ann Hetherwick Lyons Winegeart, Gilbert Hetherwick, Jr., Carol Hetherwick Sutton and Katherine "Kikki" Hetherwick Hummel, and eight grandchildren.

Gilbert was valedictorian of the C.E. Byrd High School Class of 1938, and in fact was valedictorian of every one of his graduating classes. Amazingly, he never made a "B" in school. He graduated from Centenary College and while there he was president of the Student Body and of Kappa Alpha fraternity. After serving with distinction with the Army during World War II, he entered Tulane Law School where he became Editor-in-Chief of the Tulane Law Review and was inducted into Order of the Coif and Omicron Delta Kappa.

Gilbert was a long-time partner in and director of the law firm of Blanchard, Walker, O'Quin & Roberts and served as President of the Shreveport Bar Association in 1987. While at Blanchard Walker, Gilbert concentrated in natural gas contract and regulatory work and labor relations. When I joined the firm in 1974, I worked principally for Gilbert in the earlier years and he taught me many things -- how to write a good contract and the importance of clarity; how to prepare a comprehensive yet simple and to the point opinion for a client; and how to conduct a labor arbitration. Gilbert had three, yes three, secretaries. He had a buzzer on his telephone and when he completed dictation to one secretary, he would buzz for the next one to come take some more. And he was very polite: whenever he approached my office to discuss something, he would always ask "are you on a deadline?" And when it was my responsibility to get something done, he would remind me by asking "is that on your conscience?"

Gilbert had many passions. He loved baseball and football, having played baseball as a teenager and he actually saw Babe Ruth hit a home run against the Detroit Tigers. He took great honor in being the person who named the Shreveport baseball team the Captains.

For many years, Gilbert was the only Tulane graduate among we LSU fans at the law firm. As you may remember (or perhaps you've forgotten), in 1982 Tulane beat LSU in Tiger Stadium 31-28. Gilbert was delighted. He had a plaque made of Saint George slaying the dragon with the date and score of the game shown on a brass plate. It hung in our library for years.

Gilbert had many talents. He could play the piano by ear -- just name a song or hum a few bars and he could instantly play it for you. He wrote an entire history of Blanchard Walker and every lawyer to have practiced there since the firm's founding in 1917. Gilbert spent almost his entire career as counsel for Arkansas Louisiana Gas

Company, and he was also asked to write a history of Arkla, and he did so. He similarly wrote a multi-volume "Hetherwick Family History."

Gilbert was full of wit and wisdom. Sometimes his pearls of wisdom were silly and sometimes profound. I think he could have invented "yellow stickies." Before we had those little tabs, he brought a deck of cards to the office and used them to mark in a large file what he wanted copied or made part of a dictation. It was to tell the secretary, for example, to "go to the Ace of Spades" for her reference.

Gilbert's wisdom was shown in his poetry. He wrote many of them on those long trips to Washington, D.C. I leave you with the particularly poignant verses of this poem:

Prayer

God forgive me, God forget
All the things I now regret.

Lift the life that's yet to be
Unto Thine own and leave me free --

Free to live a life alive
And one by one each day survive.

But sound Thy lonely call that clears
The turn of time upon the years

That when my ev'ning fades away
The light has lasted all the day,

For I would leave the world of men
With Grace and just a quiet Amen.

And when for me the tolling bell,
God grant it says, "He did it well."

Gilbert did it so well. I only hope that his inspiration, his wit and his wisdom will live on for me, my partners and my family.

I am honored to submit this memorial to the memory of Gilbert Lewis Hetherwick and move that this memorial be duly recorded and made a part of the permanent record

of the First Judicial District Court and that copies thereof be delivered to Gilbert's family and forwarded to the Louisiana Supreme Court for recordation.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED ON this 29th day of October, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Michael Adams', written over a horizontal line.

W. Michael Adams