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**MEMORIAL FOR  
HUGH THOMAS WARD  
PRESENTED AT THE MEMORIAL AND RECOGNITION CEREMONY  
HELD IN THE FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT  
OCTOBER 29, 2002  
UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE  
SHREVEPORT BAR ASSOCIATION**

Hugh Ward would like being remembered today by his fellow members of the Shreveport Bar Association – not because he particularly liked praise but because he loved being a lawyer, and he had a profound respect for our legal system. He practiced law successfully and functioned effectively within that system for almost forty years. Your Committee was impressed particularly by four characteristics which we believe Hugh embodied, which we all admire, and for which we believe most successful lawyers strive:

**Loyalty** – to his clients, his partners, his colleagues and, of course, his family. His loyalty engendered loyalty in return: clients of long-standing, one wife, one secretary, one law firm.

**Candor** – even in an era when some people don't understand that candor is still cool. He was forthright and forthcoming, never posturing, never evasive, never manipulative.

**Humility.** Hugh had no need to be the star, and he had a genuine gift for completing the task, for getting the job done, without seeking recognition.

**Professional skill.** He graduated from the Louisiana State University School of Law where he served as Managing Editor of the *Louisiana Law Review*. He practiced law in Shreveport from the time of his graduation in 1960, and he continued to learn and to refine his professional skills until the time of his retirement in 1997.

We believe that colleagues and business associates who had the opportunity to observe Hugh saw these same characteristics. They elected him President of the Shreveport Bar Association, Chairman of the Caddo-Bossier Legal Aid Society, and a Governor of the Louisiana Trial Lawyers Association. He was a Fellow of the American College of Trust and Estate

Counsel and was selected as one of the Outstanding Lawyers in America in the field of real estate law. Fellow lawyers employed him to represent them, even in matters not within his primary practice areas. His two partners at the time of his retirement report that they never had a serious disagreement with Hugh over the course of twenty years. Each member of your Committee recalls examples of Hugh's professionalism and of the quality of his work.

He practiced his profession in the context of a balanced social, family and community life. As to one of his favorite "extracurricular" activities, golf, some said it was not easy to draw a bright line between Hugh, the lawyer, and Hugh, the golfer. His golfing buddies report that he quite naturally became the leader of their group and that the other members of the group deferred to him in matters of rules and etiquette of the game. It is reported that they regularly said, perhaps with some resignation, that "Ward giveth and Ward taketh away; thus saith the Ward." Hugh was also a hunter, a fisherman, a renowned (some would say notorious) gardener, a board-certified football fan, with a special interest in Arkansas, LSU and the Saints, a lifelong Methodist, a Sunday School Teacher and, most especially, a devoted husband, father and grandfather.

To Winona, his widow, to their children and grandchildren and to their close friends, your Committee expresses, on behalf of the Shreveport Bar Association, our sympathy and also our great respect for Hugh Thomas Ward. We submit this memorial to this Honorable Court and ask that it be inscribed in the records of the First Judicial District Court, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and that appropriate copies be presented to his family.

Shreveport, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, October 29, 2002.

JOHN M. MADISON, JR.  
FRANK BRIGHT  
ALLEN P. JONES  
JAMES A. VAN HOOK, JR.

By: 

John M. Madison, Jr.

### **Biographical Data**

Hugh Thomas Ward was born in Belmont, Mississippi, on September 29, 1932, and moved to Hughes, Arkansas, where he lived until college graduation. He received a Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Arkansas in 1956. At the University of Arkansas he met Winona Brown to whom he was married in June of 1956. He served for two years in the United States Army before entering law school. He graduated from LSU Law School in 1960. He moved to Shreveport, Louisiana, where he practiced law until his retirement at the end of 1997. He died on April 28, 2002. He is survived by Winona Brown Ward, their daughters, Beth Matthews and her husband, Jim, Leslie FitzGerald and Sara Ward, their son, Fletcher Ward and his wife, April, and their two grandchildren, C.J. Grabenstein and Max Grabenstein.