

IN MEMORIAM
JAMES MANLY BARTON

To the Honorable Judges of the First Judicial District Court, members of the Bar, members of the family of Judge Barton, Ladies and Gentlemen:

James Manly Barton was born in Cordova, Alabama, on September 21, 1914, and he died here in Shreveport on December 2, 1994 in his 80th year. Cordova is a small town about forty miles north of Birmingham. His father was a country dentist. After Jim completed high school, he was sent to live with relatives in Birmingham so he could attend Birmingham Southern College. Times were tough in those days and he went to school by day; at night, he worked the switchboard at Alabama Power Company.

In 1940, Jim enlisted in the United States Navy and was sent to New Orleans, where he was assigned to Naval Intelligence, mostly monitoring to radio communication traffic.

In 1941, while on duty in New Orleans, a friend's sister came to visit and was introduced to Jim. (As Frances says, "On the steps of the Federal Building.") Romance blossomed and, on September 2, 1943, Frances and Jim were married in the Noel Memorial Methodist Church. After some further time in New Orleans, Jim was transferred to an Amphibious Assault Group stationed in Norfolk. By then a Chief Petty Officer, Jim was transferred back to New Orleans, and it was there that Kathy was born in May 1945.

After being mustered out of the Navy in 1945, the Bartons moved to Shreveport and to the oil and gas industry where he worked for R. O. Roy. On August 5, 1949, James

Barton II made his appearance and he was followed on May 28, 1952, by his brother, Raymond. At night, Jim furthered a strong ambition by attending law classes at Centenary College. It was, as he put it, "seven long years." (In those days, you could study for the bar and take the bar examination, and begin practicing law without attending law school.)

Law practice began in 1953 with offices in the Johnson Building. Along the way, he and Loret Ross joined forces and practiced as Barton & Ross. Fortunately for us, the then United States Commissioner, Alfred Bullock, decided he had enough of the late-night interruptions for warrants and other law enforcement activity and, in 1957, recommended to Judge Ben C. Dawkins Jr. that James Barton be appointed to replace him. When the first Magistrate Act was passed by Congress, he became the first United States Magistrate in the Western District of Louisiana, on a part-time basis.

In 1974, as the business of our court increased, and a new judge was coming on, Judge Barton became a full-time Magistrate, left his law practice behind and moved into the new Court House. Changes in the Magistrate Act greatly enlarged the scope of the duties assigned to magistrates, and Jim Barton took on all those new duties in his stride, serving as a strong assistant to the district judges.

Judge Barton was a man of many parts, aside from his judicial duties. A lifetime interest in all manner of sports was the source of an encyclopedic knowledge of facts, figures and personalities from the sports world. (Every August, the postman would deliver to my wife a small booklet with the schedule of every football game for the whole season, sent to

her with a note from Jim Barton.) His regular appearance at the YMCA for volleyball and basketball continued for much longer than most all of his peer group.

In addition to his distinguished legal career, Judge Barton contributed to our community in many other ways. He was an active Shriner, a 50-year member of the Masonic Order, a charter member of the Petroleum Club and a long-time member of Broadmoor United Methodist Church. He established a reputation for hard work and dedication, and will long be remembered by those who appeared in court before him, both lawyers and laymen alike, for the gracious, fair and even-handed manner with which he treated them all. Especially the young lawyers, making a first-time appearance in criminal cases, who appreciated the tutorials freely given by Judge Barton.

Courteous in manner, dignified in deportment, kind in heart and pure in word. Beloved by his friends, honored by his acquaintances and respected by everyone. Wherever there is nobility of character, gentleness of spirit, and all those things that make for fellowship and good cheer, James Barton will be remembered.

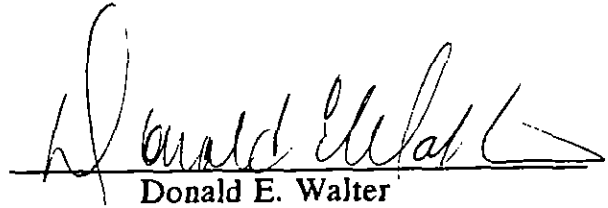
Judge Barton is survived by Frances, by Mary Kathleen Sullivan of Shreveport, by Judge James M. Barton of Tampa, Florida, by Raymond B. Barton of Monroe and a great group of grandchildren.

We move that this resolution be adopted by the Shreveport Bar Association and entered upon the records of the First Judicial District Court as a testimonial of the high regard in which James M. Barton is held.

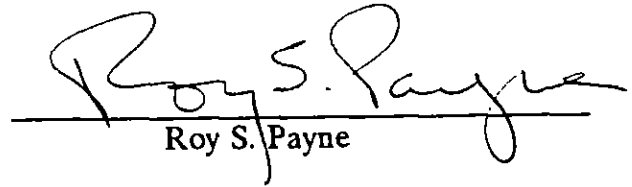
Respectfully submitted,



Tom Stagg



Donald E. Walter



Roy S. Payne