

MEMORIAL FOR
John Wayne Ballard
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:

John Wayne Ballard was born on August 26, 1914 in Hosston, Louisiana. He died March 27, 2007. He and my father were friends and business partners and I am privileged to say that he was both my friend and sometimes client.

Mr. Ballard was truly an old time country lawyer. He was born in the country, lived in the country, and worked in the country.

He did not go to law school, but read for the law, passed the Bar Examination, and practiced law as a second vocation. I say that because I believe that the law was a calling for Mr. Ballard, just like he was called to his other activities.

He was very active in the Hosston Baptist Church and involved in many community affairs, such as the Oil City Rotary Club, the Caddo Pine Island Museum and the Ida Masonic Lodge.

He ran an independent oil company, headquartered on the Oil City Belcher Road.

Mr. Ballard was the kind of man whom people respected, not only because he was intelligent, but because he got things done, whether it was an oil lease or dealing with someone's legal problems.

After Mr. Ballard decided he was not keeping up with the law well enough to continue to practice, he began to send me some of "his" clients.

It was my first experience to have a client come in with his full name carved on his leather belt and to have a client who considered a sack of pecans adequate payment for his legal services.

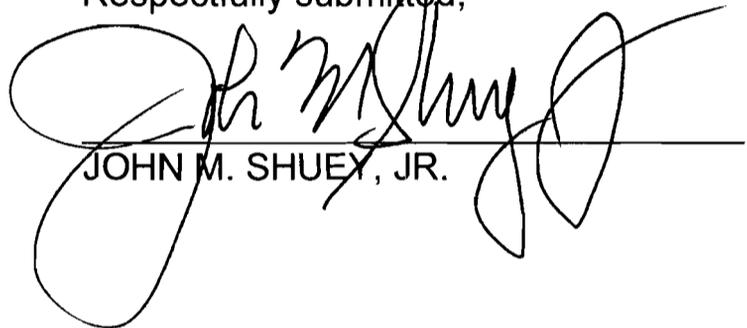
I realize now how much it meant for Mr. Ballard to trust me to represent his clients and also realize how fortunate I was to see part of the practice of country law that most city lawyers never see. That was the kind of law that Mr. Ballard practiced.

That particular era and that type of law practice is probably over. I would say to the audience today that all of us who practice law in these more hectic days should honor the memory of good men from the Greatest Generation like Mr. John Ballard who practiced law the good old fashioned way.

I am honored to submit this memorial to the memory of John Wayne Ballard 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 Mr. Ballard's family and forwarded to the Louisiana Supreme Court for Recordation.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED on this 27th day of October, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,


JOHN M. SHUEY, JR.