

MEMORIAL FOR

MICHEL ANTOINE MAROUN

PRESENTED AT THE MEMORIAL AND RECOGNITION CEREMONY
HELD IN THE FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
NOVEMBER 3, 2006
UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE
SHREVEPORT BAR ASSOCIATION

When I was in law school, I worked part-time for a lawyer by the name of Ossie Brown. Ossie later became District Attorney of East Baton Rouge Parish. When I was a Senior and discussing what I wanted to do after law school, I told Ossie that I wanted to move back to Shreveport, that I wanted to practice criminal law but didn't know how to go about getting started. Ossie got out a book and showed me a picture of two people standing in front of the Federal Building in New Orleans, one was Carlos Marcella, and the other one was a short fellow, who looked to me like Edward G. Robinson, whose name was Mike Maroun. Ossie said, if you want to practice criminal law in Shreveport, go see this guy.

Mike Maroun gave me my first job. He was my mentor and my friend. He taught me many things, the most important of which, were to always be respectful to the court, and the other lawyers, to act in a professional manner, but to never be intimidated. I knew that Mike couldn't be intimidated when I was involved in my first trial just a couple of months out of law school. The trial was in Federal Court, and the other lawyers on the team were, Mike Maroun, Sam Love, Sr., Claudius Whitmeyer, and I was the gofer. During one recess, this was sort of a high profile trial so there were a lot of people in the courtroom, I hear somebody singing over the microphone in the courtroom. I go in the courtroom and

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Mike Spence

Mike has the microphone up by Judge Dawkins podium and is signing "Tiny Bubbles" to the audience.

That was the side of Mike that most people knew, but there was another side to Mike Maroun. He was born in Shreveport, Louisiana, on November 14, 1915. He was the second of three boys born to Lebanese parents Joe and Alyce Maroun. He grew up in Shreveport, on Egan Street with his brothers Audrey and Lawrence. He graduated from high school in 1931 and at the age of fifteen, enrolled in Tulane University, where he ended up as captain of the boxing team and at the end of his third year, he was the Bantam weight champion of the Southeastern Conference. After three years at Tulane, he went to Tulane Law School, graduated and hung out at Shingle in Rodessa, Louisiana. After a year he returned to Shreveport and joined the firm of Wilson and Abramson where he became a partner after two years before he was called to active duty in World War II. Mike reached the rank of Captain, was stationed at Supreme Allied Headquarters in Frankfurt, Germany. His brother was a general. On occasion, Mike got to work side by side with General Eisenhower.

Before going into the service, he married Cecilia Faour and they had one daughter, Michelle Antoinette Maroun who was actually the only child out of the three Maroun brothers. Mike was a great family man who loved his wife, his daughter, and his grandchildren, Monique, Tiffinie, Nicole, and, Tanya more than anything. His granddaughter, Tanya, told me that some of her favorite moments were spent going out to eat with Mike at his favorite restaurant, Ernest's, they were treated like royalty.

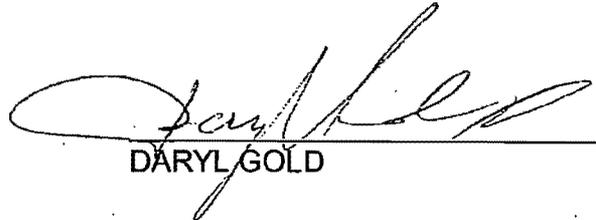
Mike spent the last year and half in San Antonio. Mike also loved his son-in-laws, Kevin and Chris very deeply and cherished the time he was able to spend with them. As

a matter of fact, the last time the family was able to have a clear conversation with Mike, he told Chris that he had seen their friend, Father Mike, he was absolved of all of his sins and Jesus Christ was his friend. He said he was ready to go.

Mike lived to be ninety years old. He lived a long, full life and there are many, many memories and stories about him but it would just be too long for me to tell you everything I would like to say.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the members of the Shreveport Bar Association, and lawyers of Shreveport and Bossier, hereby affirm the respect and high regard in which we held Mike Maroun.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this memorial and resolution be made a part of the records of the court and copies of the record be delivered to the members of the family of our departed brother and friend.


DARYL GOLD