

Memorial to

RUVIAN D. HENDRICK

April 23, 1902 - March 9, 1980

Presented to the First Judicial District Court of Louisiana for Caddo Parish by the undersigned Committee designated by the President of the Shreveport Bar Association to prepare and submit a resolution in memory of the late Ruvian D. Hendrick, a member of the Court and a member of this Association.

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Ruvian David Hendrick was born in Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana, on April 23, 1902. He received his early schooling at Belcher High School, Belcher, Louisiana. After graduation he attended Louisiana College at Pineville, Louisiana. Returning to Shreveport he attended a business college and studied law while serving as a legal stenographer in the law firm of Scarborough and Johnson. On October 1, 1925, he was appointed Clerk of Court of the Civil Section of the City Court of Shreveport by the late Judge David B. Samuel. He continued studying law under the tutorship of Judge Samuel and was admitted to the Louisiana State Bar in January, 1929.

In March, 1929, he entered into a law partnership with Joe B. Hamiter, who later became Chief Justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court. While practicing law he assisted Judge Samuel by serving on the bench in the Judge's absence.

On August 10, 1931, he married the former Willie Ford, known as "Billie". Two children were born to them, Mary Elizabeth Hendrick Krauel and Ruvian David Hendrick, Jr.

When his brother, Lloyd L. Hendrick, received his law degree, they formed a partnership and practiced law together until Judge Samuel died on May 15, 1937. Governor Richard W. Leche called a special election to fill the post of City Judge and Ruvian D. Hendrick was elected and became City Judge on June 15, 1937. He served as the only City Judge for the City of Shreveport for 18 years, holding court 5 1/2 days a week. The legislature passed a law creating another judgeship effective January 1, 1955. Judge Hendrick continued serving as City Judge of Division A.

He always tempered justice with mercy and felt it was his obligation to help people improve themselves rather than just to penalize them. He had a unique understanding of human nature and was able to solve many problems that arose between people because of his knowledge and the compassion he held for others. He was not only a person well versed in the law, but a person recognized for his kindness and vibrant personality.

During his fifth term of office, he left the bench by voluntary resignation effective September 1, 1961, after serving on the bench for over a quarter of a century. He estimated he heard close to a million cases during his judgeship. He felt the challenge of returning to private law practice would enable him to stay "young and active". After resuming private law practice he enjoyed helping train young lawyers. He was a practicing attorney until his death at 77 years of age on March 9, 1980.

Judge Hendrick served his community well, not only on the bench but in many other ways. He was active in work with the youth of the City, especially in the Norwella Council of Boy Scouts. He also assisted in organizing the Pelican Girl Scout Council. He served as chairman of many fund raising drives to help support various local civic organizations. He was active in the affairs of the First Baptist Church and served over 30 years on its Board of Directors. He served on the Board of Trustees of Louisiana Baptist College for 21 years. He was a member of the Masonic Order for over 50 years and a Past Master of the Queensborough Masonic Lodge. He was also a Shriner. Judge Hendrick was a long time member and past president of the South Shreveport Rotary Club. He was a member of the Louisiana Bar Association and the Shreveport Bar Association for 50 years.

He played a prominent role in many other civic endeavors such as the YMCA, the Cancer Fund, and the Polio Drive. He set up and designed the framework for the fund raising campaign of the Heart Fund for the State of Louisiana, which is still in use today. He helped bring organized baseball to Shreveport in 1937. He was Master of Ceremonies for over 20 years for the opening of baseball season for the Shreveport Sports of the Texas League.

He was chairman of the Apprenticeship Council of Louisiana for 17 years and assisted in organizing and was the original chairman of the Southern Apprenticeship Conference, which has

grown to be one of the largest conventions in the country today. He was a past president of the City Judge's Association of the State of Louisiana, and also a past president of the City Judges' and Prosecutors' Division of the National Safety Council.

His list of achievements could go on and on, but these are a few of which he was especially proud. He once stated that he always tried to be active in doing something worthwhile to further the cause of his City, his State, his Country, and his fellowman. Judge Hendrick himself said that he lived such an exciting life it would take volumes to tell all about it.

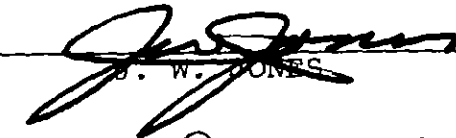
In spite of all his accomplishments and achievements during his lifetime, he was proudest of his family - his wife, Billie; his two children - Mary Elizabeth Hendrick Krauel and Ruvian David Hendrick, Jr.; his four grandchildren - Robert W. Krauel, Jr., Diane Krauel Gibbs, Ruvian David Hendrick, III, and Susan Hendrick; and his great-grandchildren - Ian Krauel, Eric Krauel, and Laura Gibbs. Since his death his granddaughter, Diane, had twin daughters, Leslie and Lynn Gibbs.

Judge often remarked that the greatest legacy a man could leave his family was "his good name". And he did just that . . .

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the members of the Shreveport Bar Association, hereby affirm the respect, the admiration and the regard in which we hold Ruvian D. Hendrick

for his character and ability, his industry, skill and learning, and his example of the lawyer and judge at his best; and we extend to his widow, son, daughter, his four grandchildren, and his five great-grandchildren our sincere sympathy in their loss.

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


J. W. JONES


PAUL J. CARMOUCHE


LEONARD L. LOCKARD

Shreveport, Louisiana

October 20, 1980