

FILED

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*W. C. H. H.*  
DEPUTY CLERK

IN MEMORIAM  
SAMUEL PINKLEY LOVE

TO THE HONORABLE JUDGES OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
COURT, MEMBERS OF THE BAR, MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY OF SAMUEL P.  
LOVE, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

Today it is our privilege to pay tribute to the memory of one of the more colorful, dedicated, and truly leading members of the legal profession.

Samuel Pinkley Love was born in Alden Bridge, Bossier Parish, Louisiana and departed this life on the second day of May, 1986, at the age of eighty-two years. He was survived by his wife, Tommy Owens Love, his son, Samuel P. Love, Jr., his daughter, Jacquelyn Love Lyons, and five grandchildren, Virginia Shawn Love, Stephen Alexander Love, Elizabeth Hollis Love, Robert L. Lyons, and David Lyons, and by his sister, Bessie Love Peyton and his brother, Frost Love.

Members of his family who knew and loved him as intimate members of his family need no reminder of Sam. Members of the Court before whom he practiced, and those who were associated with him in law practice, certainly need no reminder of his abilities characteristics, or character, and members of the Bar who opposed him in litigation need nothing to recall to their minds the tough and tenacious Sam Love.

Why, then this resolution--this Eulogy? This departed colleague was respected. He made a remarkable record which should be inscribed, permanently, on the records of this Court, not only to express formally our respect, but to serve as a memorial to which present and future members of the bar not so fortunate to have known him may refer for their benefit, to the benefit of their clients, and to the benefit of this honorable profession.

Sam was a prominent attorney. He was the founding member and senior member of the prominent law firm of Love, Rigby, Dehan, Love and McDaniel, and was proud that his son followed in his father's steps as a member of the firm, and that they practiced together for many years.

After attending what was then called Louisiana State Normal School (now Northwestern State University), and Louisiana State University, he became qualified to teach in the public schools. But he entered the world of business, not teaching, and not law. When attorneys his age were entering their chosen profession, obtaining their initial experience in law, forming their habits and establishing their basic practice and clients, Sam was learning about business...about people and their problems. And this while he was studying law under a private tutor at Centenary College. Thus we find a unique individual in our profession...one without benefit of a formal legal education. Sam studied and Sam struggled. He struggled with private legal studies, while he also struggled to work and earn a living for his family during the depression, when just earning a living was more than a full time endeavor.

Finally he was licensed to practice law by the Louisiana Supreme Court in the year 1937, at the comparative advanced age of 33 years. In his first year of practice, he lost by death his daughter, Gwendolyn June Love.

As he progressed in his practice, Sam quickly found a particular expertise and arena: advocating the cause of individuals, more than that of institutions and large corporate clients. The policeman...the fireman...the distraught and separated wife...the harrassed husband...the victim of tortious conduct...the accused...the little man...the working man...anyone who wanted a full, total and complete effort exerted on his behalf...these were his clients. While an ardent and effective attorney in any matter in which his counsel was sought and in which he chose to become involved, Sam became the acknowledged leader of the Shreveport Bar, during his time, in the field of domestic relations.

Some attorney are counselors. Some are researchers of the law. Sam was an advocate. In the fullest sense of the word. We examine his memorable characteristics:

First, common sense. He looked at a case and asked "If I were a layman, and not a lawyer, what would be the line of reasoning in this case?"

Second, self-confidence. Sam believed in himself. He knew he had the ability to carry his trials through. If he ever had a feeling of inadequacy, he conquered it. None of us who were ever associated with him--or opposed him--were aware of it.

Third. It was known by lawyers and laymen alike that Sam held a thorough, enthusiastic belief in the justice of the client's cause and a tremendous desire to win his case. In law school, students learn to approach a legal problem from the standpoint of an unprejudiced judge...to give the problem impartial consideration in the endeavor to solve it correctly. Sam didn't go to law school. Even if he had, he would have thought that the time for approaching his problems judicially was gone. He approached them from the standpoint of an advocate. When Sam Love tried a case, he knew there was only one side.

Forth. Sam made an all-encompassing approach. His sense of proportion, in a law suit, was that all things count. There were, to Sam, no trifles. He would strangle his opponents with trifles. Then he would lash out with something that would hit you in the nose. If weak on his facts, he would argue the law. If weak in the law, he would argue the facts. Regardless, Samuel P. Love would argue for his client's cause. He was an advocate.

Fifth. He planned his campaign along definite lines. And as he pressed on with his preconceived plan, he would not allow himself to be led aside by any diverting maneuver. If his opposing counsel was not similarly prepared, with similar concentration, and began worrying about what Sam Love was going to do, Sam would lead him into whatever forest or swamp that Sam might prefer as a battleground.

Sixth. Resourcefulness. If he ran into a stone wall, he would figure a way around it, or he would start in a new direction. To Sam, resourcefulness was a gift, rather than something to be obtained by study. He trained his mind to think quickly along changed lines.

Our own memory of Sam Love in this court was that of a man of great force and ability, asking for no grounds, and giving none, pressing his client's cause as far as possible....tough and tenacious, unrelenting and uncompromising. But we who really knew him will remember also that he had a profound respect for the court, the law and his colleagues. To the court


and counsel, he was profoundly courteous, but he always kept them keyed up. They never knew what to expect. When Sam tried a case, everything was action and excitement. There was never a lull, never a dull moment.

Some only saw Sam in Court. Unfortunate were those who were not otherwise associated with him. A special person. Always...at any time...he made time for his staff...his associates...his friends. He took time when they had problems...he answered their questions...he gave them help when needed. A gentleman, yes. Even more, a gentle man. For years a teacher in Sunday School class. He devoted himself to his church. He loved the practice of the law, he loved this life and he partook of it completely.

To the family of Samuel P. Love, know that we of the Shreveport Bar pay him our lasting respect. Believing he would want to be remembered in no other way, we shall miss his intelligent purpose, his sense of orderliness, and, on the other side of the courtroom, his gracious attitude toward others.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Shreveport Bar Association adopt and record this memorial as a testimonial and tribute to the memory of its departed member, Samuel Pinkley Love, and that copies of this resolution be delivered to his family.

Respectfully submitted,



James T. Adams  
for the Memorial Committee