

**FILED**

**IN MEMORIAM**

OCT 30 1997

**WILLIAM LEE MURDOCK**

DEPUTY CLERK

William Lee Murdock was born on October 12, 1915, in Dallas, Texas. As a youth, he moved with his parents to Shreveport where he attended the public schools and was graduated from C. E. Byrd High School. Bill then enrolled in Centenary Night Law School, and was admitted to the practice of law in 1940.

For some 20 years, interrupted only by the years during World War II when he served in the army in the China, Burma, India area, Bill pursued a general civil practice here in Shreveport. He was a partner in the firm of Simon, Carroll, Fitzgerald and Frazier and he served for a number of years as City Attorney for the City of Shreveport. He was admitted to practice in the state and federal courts in Louisiana and before the United States Supreme Court, and was a member of the Shreveport, Louisiana and American Bar Associations. In 1960, Bill became a Trust Officer in the trust department of Commercial National Bank in Shreveport. He rose to be the head of that department before he retired in 1980 as the bank's Senior Vice President and Trust Officer.

Bill's love for the law was evident from the fact that he chose to continue practice after his retirement from the Bank. He became "Of Counsel" with the firm of Cook, Yancey, King & Galloway and continued to practice in the field of probate and estate planning until his retirement from practice in 1994. Part of Bill's pleasure in the day to day practice of law was the opportunity it gave for close association with people. He truly enjoyed looking after the needs of his clients. He was meticulous in tending to every detail of his work, and he loved to discuss and analyze those special problems that come up in every lawyer's practice, when the solutions are not made clear by what you can find in the law books. Always practical in his approach, never straying from the path of ethical and honorable conduct as a lawyer, possessed with a great sense of humor, a genuine affection for people, and wise from his many years of practice, Bill was a wonderful counselor to those with whom he worked as well as to those many clients whom he served.

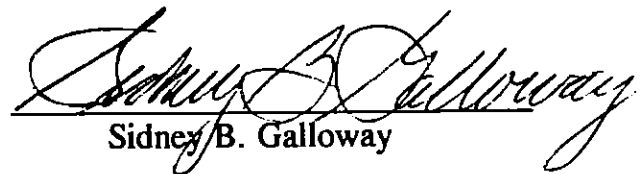
As much as he cared for the law, which he practiced for over 50 years, Bill Murdock had two other loves in his life that were more intense - his love for his wife and family, and his love for his Lord and his Church. Bill was married to Eleanor (Nell) Schermerhorn and they shared more than 55 years together. He is survived by four children - Louise Eason and Susan Smitherman of Shreveport, Ann Terrell of Grand Cane, La., and William Lee Murdock, Jr. of Lexington, Ala., nine grandchildren, and his sister, Vivian Lewis, of Shreveport. Bill was a devoted husband, father and grandfather. His

love for his family was made obvious to those around him by his constant, spontaneous expression of his great interest and pride in the things they were doing, and, sometimes, his caring concern over the things affecting their lives.

Perhaps most important in the life of Bill Murdock was his love for his Lord which he expressed most visibly through his membership and service in The First United Methodist Church of Shreveport. He was a long time member of the Methodist Men's Sunday School and through the years served on numerous committees in his church. This aspect of his life was joined in and shared by his wife Nell, and they were both named life members of the Administrative Board of First Methodist Church. Bill also spent much time in service in his community. He was a founding member of the Shreveport Optimist Club and a life member and former President of the Board of Directors of the Shreveport Chapter of the Association for the Blind.

William Lee Murdock departed this life on November 7, 1996. He will be remembered by his colleagues in the law for his competence, his strict sense of honor and integrity, and his devotion to those he served as an attorney. He will be remembered by all who knew him as a truly good man - a gentleman, and a warm and caring friend.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Shreveport Bar Association on this 30th day of October, 1997.

  
Sidney B. Galloway