

Memorial for
FRANCES OLIVIA ALLEN
Presented at the Memorial and Recognition Ceremony
Held by the First Judicial District Court
November 13, 2014
Under the Auspices of the Shreveport Bar Association

MAY IT PLEASE THE COURT:

Frances Olivia Allen was born to Calhoun Allen -- some of us are old enough to remember him as Mayor Allen -- and Mary Miller Allen. Frances was born on November 20, 1949. Frances died in Shreveport on July 27, 2014.

Frances Allen attended Southfield, Byrd, SMU and LSU Law School. She was a sister of Alpha Delta Pi Sorority and a member of our local Junior League. Frances belonged to multiple bar associations, including, of course, the Shreveport Bar Association.

Frances was a deacon at the First Presbyterian Church on Jordan Street, where she was a member for her entire life, an association that meant even more to her with each passing year.

As a hostess, Frances Allen will be remembered by her friends for her quenelles de brochet. Sometimes a heavy dish, Frances's quenelles were light, delicate, exquisite, the result of attention to detail and technical skill.

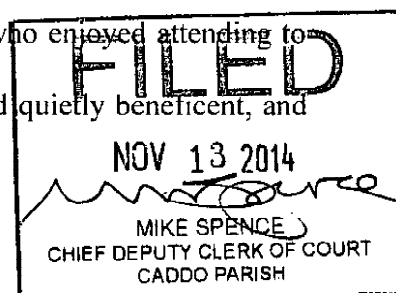
Frances's professional life as a lawyer showed the same attention to detail, technical skill, plus a love of the law.

Frances's early career included a stint with the United States Attorney's office. Many of us called upon her first when checking upon a case, because we never doubted her integrity and respected her blunt honesty. She told it like it was.

Frances was a private person. Connected with old Caddo Parish families, she spent her later years taking care of families and friends. Frances walked down the halls of nursing homes rather than striding down the corridors of power. She used her legal skills to serve people -- sometimes gratis -- whom most of us never knew.

All of us here have had to endure the horrors of Continuing Legal Education. I liked to sit with Frances at CLE seminars. Frances had a personality that, like her quenelles, was light, delicate and exquisite. Her sense of humor was uniquely hers, and she could skewer a pompous professor as deftly as she could mix a dry martini.

Today we should remember Frances Allen as a fellow lawyer who enjoyed attending to detail, who strove to be technically perfect, who was generous, fun and quietly beneficent, and



who lived a life of personal and professional integrity. I am not the only person in this room who misses her deeply.

I am honored to offer this memorial in memory of Frances Olivia Allen and move that it be filed and made a part of the permanent record of the First Judicial District Court and that copies be presented to Frances's family and forwarded to the Louisiana Supreme Court for further recordation as appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

Marshall Shaw

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