

Memorial
Isaac Henry Smith, Jr.

FILED

Born: December 6, 1918
Died: February 20, 2003

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Isaac Henry Smith, Jr. was always known as "I. Henry" or "Ike" to his many friends. He was a Shreveport native, graduating from Centenary College in 1940.

He served our country during World War II as pilot of a PBY reconnaissance plane, searching first for German submarines in the Carribean and then for Japanese warships in the Western Pacific.

After WWII, he attended LSU Law School. He was an Editor of The Law Review and graduated in 1947. He began practicing law with T.K. Giddens. What a time it must have been to begin the practice of law with a letterhead as simple as "Giddens & Smith, The Slattery Building, Shreveport, Louisiana."

In 1952, I. Henry joined John Shuey to establish the firm of Shuey & Smith. He remained with our firm until his death this year.

I. Henry was an oil and gas title lawyer. There is no telling how many thousands of title examinations he made over the years. He was very meticulous in preparation of these opinions. Even today, people rely almost reverentially on an I. Henry opinion.

I. Henry would chain out a title on a roll of shelf paper, beginning with the Patent and continuing through the present. Title work, especially mineral ownership, is like genealogy, with family trees and roots. I have often thought about the fact there was so much family and historical information found on one of I. Henry's scrolls.

I. Henry was a well-respected lawyer, but he did enjoy life outside the practice. He spent many hours with friends at the Shreveport Country Club, either on the golf course or playing cards. He really enjoyed activities with his friends.

Even more than his law practice or his friends, I. Henry loved his family. I recall quite often on a Friday afternoon when I. Henry would say that he needed to go home early and clean the pool because the grandchildren were coming over to swim. That to me is a very valuable lesson which should remind ~~all of us that there is much more to a full and successful life than our office careers.~~

To his loving family, friends and colleagues, on behalf of the Shreveport Bar Association, we submit this Memorial to the memory of I. Henry Smith, Jr. and move that it be inscribed in the records of the First Judicial District Court, Caddo Parish, Louisiana and the certified copies be presented to his family.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard J. Reynolds