

Memorial for
RACHEL D. KING
Presented at the Memorial and Recognition Ceremony
Held by the First Judicial District Court
November 9, 2023
Under the Auspices of the Shreveport Bar Association

MAY IT PLEASE THE COURT:

Rachel D. King was born on December 1, 1976 in Shreveport, Louisiana, to William B. “Pete” and Alice Warren King. Rachel passed away on July 2, 2023 at only forty-six years of age, but she enjoyed a full and blessed life as a devoted wife, mother, attorney and my daughter. She graduated from Captain Shreve High School and, received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Louisiana State University at Shreveport in 2001, and then went on to obtain her Juris Doctorate from Southern University Law Center in Baton Rouge in 2004. After graduating law school, Rachel served as a law clerk for the First Judicial District Court in and for Caddo Parish, Louisiana. Rachel served as an Assistant City Prosecutor at Shreveport City Court, gaining trial experience that served her well during her time in practice. She was asked to become an Assistant District Attorney for Caddo Parish, filling several roles, including time in juvenile court. From 2018 until her passing, Rachel worked with her father at King & King, LLC., in the area of private practice law, primarily handling family law and succession cases, while also raising her daughter with the support of her husband, Richard. She took great pride and joy in following in her father’s footsteps, and was excited to work with her father in the practice of law.

From the age of twelve, Rachel wanted to be a lawyer. We would discuss my work in general and confidential setting, but her inquisitive mind had already started her on the path to a legal career here in the Shreveport Bar.

Retired Judge Bobby Waddell shared with me that when Rachel worked as his law clerk, every morning she would come in ready to go to work. No matter what the task was it was done without complaint or conversation.

Caddo Parish District Attorney, Honorable James Stewart, stated that Rachel prosecuted in the juvenile section and also later in the appellate section. Rachel was known in court for being a tough prosecutor and caring deeply for abused children. At the office she was known by the support



staff for her kindness and sweetness, always remembering birthdays, and bringing cakes, cards and gifts to commemorate.

For those who knew Rachel, they would describe her as hardworking, bubbly and unafraid to question anyone or anything, including always being willing to stand by her opinion and point of view. Even in her ability to hold strongly to her beliefs and thoughts, Rachel was very kind and compassionate, truly caring about people, especially children. She volunteered as a tutor at Arthur Circle Elementary School in Shreveport, and was a dedicated supporter of the Oakwood Home for Women, also in Shreveport. Rachel frequently spoke with and offered guidance to men and women with substance abuse addictions. She never gave up on someone in need, never.

One of Rachel's co-workers told me that each year, Rachel would use her own money to purchase Christmas gifts for Providence House.

Rachel enjoyed reading, traveling and spending quality time with her friends and family. She especially enjoyed the annual trips to South Padre Island, Texas. Her greatest joy though was being a mother.

Rachel and I have always had a kind of comradery, and the day I got stopped for a traffic ticket on Interstate-20 was one of those days. It all started when Rachel was going to law school in Baton Rouge and invariably got stopped for speeding in one of those places that seemingly everyone gets a ticket. Rachel was no different. She would call me in these instances to help her and I would always do what I could to help. On this particular day though, it was my turn. I was coming into Shreveport and just as I got to the city limits, I could see those lights that we all recognize and so I pulled over and waited for the officer to walk to my car. It made me remember helping Rachel. However, this time it would be me asking for a favor. I had no choice but to tell the officer who my daughter was and that she worked at the City Prosecutor's Office in Shreveport, and I asked him if he knew her. He said, "Yes, I know Rachel. I think I can let you go this time." I had always felt that Rachel was following in my footsteps and now I was following in hers. I am glad that we always had each other's back.

Rachel was preceded in death by her mother, Alice Jean Warren King; maternal grandparents, Alva and Alma Warren; and paternal grandparents, Lamont and Lucille King. Those left to cherish her memory are her husband, Richard Self, who was always by her side; daughter,

Audra Jean King-Self, born February 3, 2012 who is smart and shares her mother's great heart; law partner and father, William B. "Pete" King; stepmother, Christine King; sisters, Jill King, Jena Martino (Thony), and Brandy Miller; as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts, uncles, friends and colleagues.

I am honored to offer this memorial in memory of my daughter and law partner, Rachel D. King, and move that it be filed and made a part of the permanent record of the First Judicial District Court, Shreveport, Caddo Parish, Louisiana and that copies be presented to Rachel's family.

Respectfully submitted on this the 9th day of November, 2023, in Shreveport, Caddo Parish, Louisiana.

BY: 
WILLIAM B. "PETE" KING