

**FILED**

OCT 28 1991

*Alta M. Miller*  
DEPUTY CLERK

SHREVEPORT BAR ASSOCIATION

Memorial to Robert Roberts, Jr.

October 28, 1991

Robert Roberts, Jr. was born in Minden, Louisiana on September 20, 1903, and died in Shreveport, Louisiana on October 5, 1991. He was the son of Judge Robert Roberts and Olive Goodwill Roberts. He was reared in Minden and was a graduate of Minden High School, Louisiana State University and Louisiana State University Law School. He was valedictorian of his law class and a member of the Order of the Coif.

Mr. Roberts was admitted to the Louisiana Bar in 1925, and immediately commenced to practice law in Shreveport. Entering law practice in Shreveport at about this same time were his close personal friends, George Naff, Ford Currier, Charles Egan and Cecil Morgan. Each of this group of friends, proceeding separately, achieved distinguished legal careers, and they remained good friends for their lifetimes. Only Judge Morgan survives.

In 1934, Mr. Roberts joined the legal department of the predecessor companies of the present Arkla, Inc., and served as in-house counsel for those companies until 1953, when he became a partner in the law firm of Blanchard, Walker, O'Quin & Roberts in Shreveport. As a partner in that firm he continued to serve as legal counsel for the Arkla companies and in 1964, he succeeded Henry C. Walker, Jr. as General Counsel of the Arkla companies and served in that capacity until the mid 1980s. He also served as a member of the board of directors of Arkla, Inc. from 1964 until 1982, and thereafter as a Director Emeritus.

Although Mr. Roberts spent his entire professional life in Shreveport, the nature of his practice was such that he enjoyed a national reputation for professional excellence, particularly in New York and Washington, D.C. with regard to corporate and regulatory matters while at the same time engaging in a general business and personal practice in Shreveport.

Mr. Roberts was a long-time participant in bar activities and served as president of the Shreveport Bar Association in 1962. He was a former member of the House of Delegates of the Louisiana State Bar Association; a

member of the American and the Federal Energy Bar Associations; the L.S.U. Foundation, and the Louisiana Civil Service League. He was a member of St. Mark's Episcopal Church where he had served on the vestry and as junior warden. He also served as chairman of the Shreveport Council of Social Agencies; as President of Genevieve Children's Home (later Family Counseling and Children's Services); as President of the Board of Trustees of Southfield School; and as a member of the Advisory Committee of Junior Achievement of Shreveport and Bossier City. He was a member of the Shreveport Club, serving as president in 1973, the Shreveport Country Club, and the Boston Club of New Orleans. He was listed in the Marquis publication "Who's Who in America".

In 1929, Mr. Roberts married Mary Hodges Marshall, who died in 1978, and is remembered with great affection by all who knew her. In 1980, he married Clara Robinson Thompson, affectionately known as "Toddy", who survives him. Also surviving him are his three children, his son Robert Roberts III, one of the senior partners of the Blanchard Walker law firm; his daughter Susan, who is married to Dr. R. O'Neal Chadwick, of Alexandria, Louisiana; and his daughter Olive, who is married to William H. Forman, Jr., a lawyer in New Orleans. He is also survived by a step-son, James W. Thompson III, of Fort Lauderdale, Florida; by eight grandchildren, Robert Roberts IV, Campbell Marshall Roberts, Mary Chadwick Hancock, Catherine Chadwick Kaetzer, Susan Chadwick Brame, R. O'Neal Chadwick, Jr., R. Herbert Chadwick, and William H. Forman, III; by five step-grandchildren, Leigh Thompson Pratt, Francis T. Kalmbach, Jr., Ellen Kalmbach Tizian, Lewis K. F. Kalmbach, and Samuel A. Kalmbach; and by eight great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his only sister, Mrs. Murphy J. Foster, of Franklin, Louisiana.

Mr. Roberts' personality was characterized by unforgettable qualities of determination, perseverance, and high intellect. His preparation for, and attention to, legal matters of all kinds made him one of the outstanding attorneys of his time. His guiding hand, and standards of excellence and

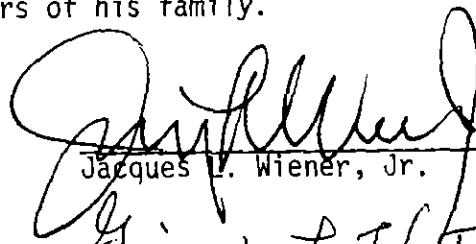
dignity were exemplary for younger lawyers who came under his influence. He will long be remembered by the many friends and associates he leaves after a lifetime of distinguished achievement.

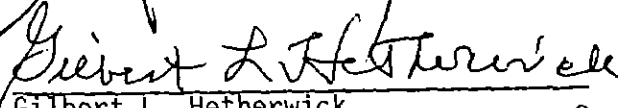
It was characteristic of Mr. Roberts that in conversation and discussion, as well as in strongly-asserted argument, either formal or informal, he maintained an unfailing civility that was not merely politeness, or good manners, but derived from some unstated principle or belief. It was a quality that calls to mind that civility is an essential ingredient of a society of citizens having equal rights under law, and that the practice of such civility by our founding fathers made it possible for them to create our nation despite the burning issues that divided them.

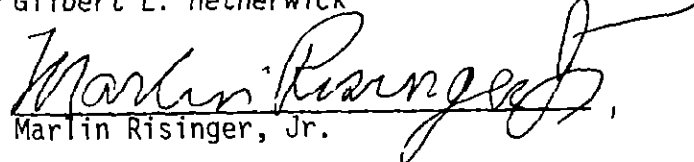
The members of this Memorial Committee are privileged and proud to have been close friends of Mr. Robert Roberts, Jr. We are moved to close this memorial to him with the words of Robert Louis Stevenson:

"Of what shall a man be proud if he is not proud of his friends? Friends are the end and the reward of life. They make us worthy of ourselves."

On behalf of the Shreveport Bar Association, this committee requests that the Court order that this memorial to Robert Roberts, Jr. be inscribed in the permanent records of the Court and that copies thereof be sent to his wife, his children, and other members of his family.

  
Jacques L. Wiener, Jr.

  
Gilbert L. Hetherwick

  
Marlin Risinger, Jr.