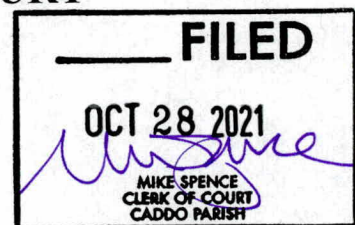


**MEMORIAL FOR  
THOMAS N. WILLIAMS  
PRESENTED AT THE MEMORIAL AND  
RECOGNITION CEREMONY  
HELD BY THE FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT  
OCTOBER 28, 2021  
UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE  
SHREVEPORT BAR ASSOCIATION**



Lieutenant Colonel Tom Williams became the Judicial Administrator of our court in 1979, following the late Colonel Warren Graves who was the father of one of our legal colleagues, General James Graves. I had the pleasure of working with Colonel Williams for a short time after I was elected District Judge and before his well-earned retirement.

Developing the information for his eulogy has been complicated by the passage of time and the fact that we have had over two generations of newly elected judges since Tom retired, but the information assembled reveals a man of quiet but very substantial achievement.

Tom was the first to contact me upon my election as judge. We met at the court house later where he told me there were funds to help furnish an office, and buy equipment, "but please don't feel obligated to spend it". This corresponds with the advice he would give new law clerks when they were hired, which was to be sure and "rathole" as much of their paycheck as they could so they would have some savings if they ever needed it in the future. Excellent advice!

Tom died in his 86<sup>th</sup> year on September 8, 2020. He was born in Texarkana, Texas and spent the last 42 years of his life in Bossier City. He matriculated at the University of Texas departing with a Bachelor of Arts degree and a Commission in the United States Air Force. He rose to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and took early retirement to become our Judicial Administrator.

His Air Force career began as a Special Agent in the Air Force Office of Special Investigations. His postings included Ching Chang Kwan Air Base in Taiwan. Subsequently, while on active duty, Tom attended Catholic University graduating with a Juris Doctor Degree. He later transferred from the Office of Special Investigations to the Air Force Judge Advocate Corps.

When he left the Air Force to become Court Administrator he was serving as Eight Air Force Staff Judge Advocate.

Among other duties, Tom took on the work of adjudicating various Divorce Court motions, becoming in effect, the Court's first Hearing Officer and thus relieving docket pressure in those sections; a truly thankless job.

Tom was also licensed to practice in Texas and a member of the Texas Bar Association. He was an Eagle Scout and a member of Acacia Fraternity. He was past Chairman of Boy Scout Troop 113 and a president of The Galvez Chapter of Sons of the American Revolution.

Tom Williams was a stalwart member of the Shreveport First Baptist Church, a bible scholar, and an avid reader of western novels. He enjoyed Trans-Atlantic Ocean voyages and researching family genealogy.

Few knew that Tom had the court rooms wired so he could listen in if he anticipated trouble or thought there might be problems with a particular case. I don't believe anyone in the court house could have done better than Tom at calming tempers and restoring peace in a difficult situation. At a tough time, who would you rather have at your back than a combination cop, lawyer, Eagle Scout and Bible Scholar.

Tom has survived by his wife of forty-six years, Shela Butler Williams, daughters, Lou-Anna Williams, Melinda Luxemburg, Sharon Williams, sons, Walter Williams, Thomas Williams Jr., and numerous nieces, nephews and grandchildren.

I remember Tom Williams as totally efficient, courteous, pleasant, understated, kind and willing to undertake any task to assist or improve the Court. In the course of developing some of this information I talked with several Judges that are my senior. They all remembered Tom as most capable, courteous, and kind. He richly deserves to be remembered with gratitude and honored in this Memorial Service.

Respectfully Submitted, Roy Brun, District Judge, Retired.