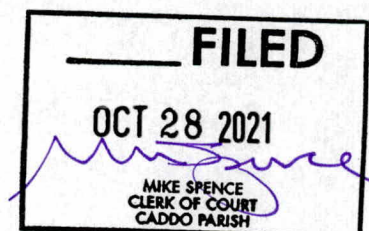


**MEMORIAL FOR  
WILLIAM T. ALLISON  
PRESENTED AT THE MEMORIAL AND  
RECOGNITION CEREMONY  
HELD BY THE FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT  
CONVENED AT THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
OCTOBER 28, 2021  
UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE  
SHREVEPORT BAR ASSOCIATION**

William Travis Allison, known to most of us simply as Bill, was born August 11, 1942, in Donaldsonville, Louisiana, to Travis Reeves Allison and Frances Ellen Stringer and died in Shreveport on June 3, 2020. He was preceded in death by his parents and his sister Patricia Joyce Allison. He is survived by his loving wife Nancy Dean Allison, his twin sister Mary Jewel Allison Armstrong and family, his brother Robert Ross Allison (and family), his son Morgan Travis Allison, Morgan's wife Elizabeth Whitton, and their child, Alexander James Allison. Also mourning Bill's passing is his longtime paralegal and his and Nancye's very dear friend Terri Nelson Kay.

Bill went to elementary school in New Iberia, Centerville, and Patterson, Louisiana. He attended San Jacinto High School in Houston, Texas, and a boy's school near Kerrville, ultimately obtaining a high school equivalency diploma or GED.

Bill served in the Navy in the Pacific from 1960 to 1964, and then returned to Louisiana where he attended McNeese College for a year. He then attended and graduated from the Tulane School of Law in 1971. In 1980 after practicing in New Orleans and Morgan City he came to Shreveport to work as litigation director for Northwest Louisiana Legal Services. Subsequently, he practiced with Jim Graves and then with Claudius Whitmeyer and Tim Fischer after which, for the most part, he was a sole practitioner although he was of Counsel to Mills, Timmons and Flowers. The bulk of his professional life was spent in Shreveport although Nancye and Bill returned to New Orleans for four years where he practiced for a time with Brian Spurlock. His principal areas of practice were personal injury, workers' compensation, and Social Security disability benefit awards.





Tim Fischer remembers Bill as someone who "graced our lives with his wit, compassion and his smile." Tim worked at Legal Services while Bill was its litigation chief and says that Bill "was like a fun older brother to the young attorneys of which I was fortunate to be one. We had great times at work and away from work: wine, women and an occasional song were the order of those days." Tim says that "Bill lived life large: he rode motorcycles; he owned an oceangoing houseboat and piloted his own aircraft. Bill didn't ever meet a risk he didn't like [or want to experience]. I recall descending from a low cloud bank and being grateful to see an airstrip emerge below [and] beyond fast approaching tree-tops." Tim adds a "final word in tribute to Bill's true love Nancye. It was an exciting ride for her. And she always knew that Bill knew she was the best thing to ever happen in his life."

Terri Kay, who worked for Bill for years beginning when she was 21, remembers that "Mr. Allison always wore a bow tie. After [working for him for] a few years, Bill said, 'Don't call me Mr. Allison. Call me Bill.'" Terri says, "I worked for Bill for what seemed like forever, and have so many good memories, and stories, and we had some good fights. When you work for someone for so long you feel like you can say what you want. He stuck up for me when I ruffled [someone else's] feathers. We respected each other." If "you have never experienced a GREAT boss, well, I am sorry for you. I have had a great boss. I'll always remember Bill Allison. He loved the Law. He loved Nancye. I love them both. Goodbye, Mr Allison."

As for me, I was saddened to hear that Bill had passed away. Among many other things I remember him for, I remember how important he was in my recovery from alcoholism many years ago and that he introduced me to the woman who would become my wife Joy.

A few days after his death Nancye wrote, "Lawyer, husband, father, grandfather, brother, friend, spiritual, well-read, sweet, exasperating man. He loved the law. He worked tirelessly for his clients. He loved the Allison Family Gatherings when he was with siblings and all the kids, playing games and telling tales. He loved riding the 'twisties' with his motorcycle friends. He loved to listen to classical music. He enjoyed debating spiritual

and political views with friends of opposite viewpoints. A friend said he probably has questions for God now." "He left this world on the 36<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our wedding, most unexpectedly. To say that those of us who loved Bill are devastated is an understatement. While he was a Saints fan, he was not a saint. We all have character defects, but when his were in check, Bill was a prince of a man. And I will miss him terribly."

So do we all.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of his family and friends on this 28<sup>th</sup> day of October 2021, in Shreveport, Caddo Parish, Louisiana.

  
John G. Ratcliff