

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

2015 BAR MEMORIALS

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2016
9:00 o'clock a.m.
Courtroom No. 2 A
Lehigh County Courthouse
Allentown, Pennsylvania

ALFRED K. HETTINGER
RICHARD C. BUSS
HONORABLE MADALINE PALLADINO

HONORABLE EDWARD D. REIBMAN, P.J.
HONORABLE CAROL K. MCGINLEY, J.
HONORABLE ROBERT L. STEINBERG, J.
HONORABLE J. BRIAN JOHNSON, J.
HONORABLE KELLY L. BANACH, J.
HONORABLE JAMES T. ANTHONY, J.
HONORABLE MARIA L. DANTOS, J.
HONORABLE MICHELE A. VARRICCHIO, J.
HONORABLE DOUGLAS G. REICHLEY, J.

Matthew Giovannini, Jr. RPR
Official Court Reporter

INDEX

<u>Memorial</u>	<u>Page</u>
ALFRED K. HETTINGER, JR. By Thomas Turczyn, Esquire:	5
RICHARD C. BUSS By Robert Long, Esquire:	18
HON. MADALINE PALLADINO By Hon. Carol K. McGinley:	27

1 Monday, February 8, 2016

2 9:00 o'clock a.m.

3 Courtroom No. 2 A

4 Lehigh County Courthouse

5 MR. POH: All rise.

6 Oyez, Oyez, Oyez. All manner

7 of persons having anything to do before the

8 Honorable Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of

9 Lehigh County, which had its origin in Westminster,

10 was created under the Constitution of 1790, and

11 which has been in continuous session since December

12 21, 1812, and which is here holden this day, let

13 them come forward and they shall be heard. God save

14 the Commonwealth, and this Honorable Court.

15 Please be seated.

16 JUDGE REIBMAN: Good morning.

17 AUDIENCE RESPONSE: Good

18 morning, Your Honor.

19 JUDGE REIBMAN: On behalf of

20 my colleagues of the Court of Common Pleas, and

21 personally, I welcome each of you to the annual Bar

22 Memorial Ceremony sponsored jointly by the Bar

23 Association of Lehigh County, and the Court.

24 Let me first introduce my other

25 colleagues. To my immediate right is Judge Carol

1 McGinley. To my immediate left is Judge Robert
2 Steinberg. To his immediate left is Judge Kelly
3 Banach. In the front row to the far, my left, your
4 right, is Judge Michele Varricchio, to her right is
5 Judge Jim Anthony, to his right is Judge Maria
6 Dantos, and to her right is Judge Doug Reichley.
7 We will be joined shortly by Judge Brian Johnson,
8 who was unavoidably detained, but he will be in very
9 shortly.

10 Last Friday, a week ago, we
11 admitted new members to the Bar of this Court. In
12 this special session of the Court, we pause to
13 recognize those members of our Bar Association who
14 have passed away during the previous year.

15 This is a time for us to
16 remember and pay respects to departed colleagues, to
17 reflect upon our own mortality, and to remind
18 ourselves that some day, hopefully not soon, someone
19 will be speaking about us, for which there is no
20 opportunity to respond.

21 The Court recognizes the
22 President of the Bar Association of Lehigh County,
23 the Honorable William Platt, Senior Judge of the
24 Superior Court of Pennsylvania, and a former member
25 and President Judge of this Court.

1 Judge Platt?

2 JUDGE PLATT: May it please the
3 Court? This is a privilege and an honor for me to
4 preside at this ceremony along with the Judges of
5 the Court. And it's one of the functions that I
6 have looked forward to as I knew I would be the next
7 President of the Bar.

8 I lost some friends last year,
9 and this is an old and fine tradition of the Bar
10 Association, perhaps its finest. We have an
11 opportunity to review, remember, and reflect on the
12 lives and careers of many of our colleagues who have
13 passed away.

14 I read over the minutes of a
15 number of the memorials to determine what would be
16 appropriate for me to say. And as you know, they
17 are all on the Bar web page, and they are available
18 in more recent years.

19 So I thought it would be
20 appropriate to hear what Al Hettinger said when he
21 was the President of the Bar, and he didn't say
22 much. And I think that was his advice to me, don't
23 say much, it's not my show. So that's what I'm
24 going to do. I'm going to introduce the presenters,
25 and keep my mouth shut, which is sometimes hard for

1 me to do.

2 The first person to be honored
3 is Attorney Alfred Hettinger. And he will be
4 memorialized by Attorney Thomas Turczyn.

5 MR. TURCZYN: May it please the
6 Court?

7 JUDGE REIBMAN: Mr. Turczyn.

8 MR. TURCZYN: Judge Reibman.

9 Other distinguished members of the Court, of course,
10 thank you for the introduction, Judge Platt. Good
11 luck to you in your presidency.

12 As I look out upon the
13 audience, and look at all of you, I see many faces
14 that I do not recognize, and I see many colleagues,
15 but not as many friends as I see strangers.

16 I wish I had countless lives
17 like Bill Murray as Phil Connors in Groundhog Day,
18 where he could just relive, and relive, and I could
19 just relive and meet every one of you, because I
20 know that each one of us has a story, and each one
21 of us has a personality. And unfortunately, we do
22 not have the opportunity to really get to know one
23 another.

24 Joanne Hettinger is here as Al's
25 widow, and I'm just absolutely honored that you

1 asked me to speak on behalf of Al. I did get to
2 know Al Hettinger very well. Many of you got to
3 know Al very well. And Joanne, you honor me, really
4 honor me, by asking me to speak on Al's behalf this
5 morning. I do it with a great deal of pride,
6 because I knew Al very, very well.

7 Al died January 4th, 2015. He
8 was 78 years old at the time of his death. He was
9 born on February 2nd, 1937. At that time, Allentown
10 had two districts, the 6th Ward, and every other
11 part of Allentown. Al was born in the other part of
12 Allentown. He was raised at 5th and Cedar Street.
13 And those of you that don't know, and haven't been
14 around Allentown, don't know how those of us from
15 the 6th Ward cherished the idea that we are 6th
16 Warders.

17 I had been born in the 6th Ward,
18 and then I moved to the West End. I moved from 2nd
19 Street, across Jordan Creek, to 4th Street. Across
20 Jordan Creek was the West End, because it was west
21 of the 6th Ward.

22 In those days we did not hold
23 our entertainment centers in our hands, none of this
24 (indicating). Our entertainment centers, we walked
25 to them. We called them parks. That's where I

1 first knew Al. Al was five, six years older than I
2 was, and when we moved to the West End at 4th and
3 Green, we were about four -- about two blocks away
4 from where Al was raised.

5 He was raised near the Garfield
6 Playground, and near Jordan Park. There all of us,
7 no matter what our age, we gathered in the spring
8 and in the summer to play the game that we all know
9 as the American game, baseball.

10 Maybe as I approached you, you
11 noticed I was wearing a tie full of baseballs, in
12 honor of Al, because he was such a baseball fan.
13 The younger guys, as I was, got to know the older
14 guys, because as we went to the park, we got to know
15 them, and they would ask us to join the team, and
16 that's how I got to know Al. Didn't know him well,
17 but I knew him from that sense.

18 Al was a pitcher. His good
19 friend, Terry Pypiuk, another Warder, likewise got
20 to know Al through baseball. Al likened himself, as
21 a pitcher. Terry said that was a delusion that he
22 had. He was not a pitcher as far as Terry was
23 concerned.

24 Terry told me that there was one
25 time when Al ventured into the Ward, down at the

1 River Front Park, to play a game, and Al was
2 pitching. And at Terry's first bat, Al blew a pitch
3 right by him. Terry was impressed. The next pitch,
4 Terry crushed it into the Lehigh river. That's why
5 Terry doesn't think that Al was much of a pitcher.

6 After the game, Al sought Terry
7 out to congratulate him on that hit. Those of you
8 from the Ward know that somebody coming in and
9 congratulating you on being competent in some area
10 don't know 6th Warders. We were very possessive,
11 and very jealous, and we didn't take too kindly to
12 things like that.

13 But that's how Al was. Al was a
14 fierce competitor, but a gentleman. He could be
15 blunt, as we all know; he could be fearless, as we
16 all know, but he was more kind and gentle than most
17 of you may realize. He was the father of two
18 children, a grandfather of four, and a great
19 grandfather of eight.

20 And like all of us, he had his
21 diversions from the law. Al's principal diversion
22 was baseball. There is no doubt in my mind that the
23 Philly Phanatic was named after him. Now, I know
24 there are some pundits, particularly on my left,
25 that are saying, the Philly Phanatic's name is Al?

1 No. The Philly Phanatic was patterned after Al, and
2 all of those Phanatical Phillies fans, first of all
3 all which was Al. He loved baseball, and he loved
4 the Phillies.

5 His friend Nelson Schaeffer,
6 shared Al's passion for baseball. Over a period of
7 43 years they played a board game of baseball. In
8 that time, in 43 years they played 4,529 games of
9 board baseball. That was Al's MO. He was a
10 stickler for detail. He kept statistics on
11 everything. He enjoyed the mental diversions from
12 the games, that the games provided. He taught me
13 how to play cribbage. Every Sunday he completed the
14 New York Times crossword puzzle, in ink. That's how
15 Al was.

16 I remember game two of the 1980
17 World Series. Al had four tickets. Al, Joanne,
18 myself, and there was one other person, and I can't
19 remember who it was. Philadelphia was playing
20 Kansas City. At the end of seven, Philadelphia
21 was down four to two. It was a pitcher's game.
22 Very, very boring. Carlton was pitching for the
23 Phillies.

24 With things looking hopeless,
25 Joanne asked Al to go and get her a soft pretzel.

1 While he was gone, standing in line waiting for the
2 soft pretzel, the Phillies retired Kansas City, one,
3 two, three, in the top of the eighth. Al was still
4 standing in line. When the bottom of the eighth
5 came, the Phillies erupted for four runs. The
6 stands were going crazy. The noise was thunderous.
7 The crowd was frantic, and Al was standing in line
8 watching on the monitor, the series -- the second
9 game falling to the Phillies as the victors. After
10 much counsel, Al finally forgave.

11 And those of you familiar with
12 Chaucer, you might remember that he wrote of one
13 character called, "the Student." And one line of
14 prose from that famous poem about the student was,
15 "Gladly would he learn, and gladly would he teach."
16 That was Al, gladly would he learn.

17 He graduated from Allentown High
18 School class of 1953. He was Valedictorian of his
19 class. He graduated first in his class at
20 Muhlenberg College in 1957. He received his law
21 degree from Harvard University in 1960. Many years
22 later he was taking a course at one of the community
23 colleges. And that's where he met Joanne. She
24 was likewise taking a course. She was a teacher.
25 She shared his passion for teaching, and they struck

1 up a relationship, and eventually they became Mr.
2 and Mrs.

3 He loved teaching. He taught in
4 formal settings, legal settings, informal settings
5 and he even taught his clients. He taught at
6 Muhlenberg College. He was my professor of
7 Political Science.

8 In my junior year I had Al as my
9 professor. He taught the course, and one of the
10 requirements was for each of us to write a paper.
11 Al recommended to me, since I was from the area,
12 that I do a study of John DeMarinos. He had run for
13 District Attorney, and I did a paper on John, and as
14 the result I was introduced to the Bar Association
15 of Lehigh County. I interviewed many of the
16 members, and I got a taste of what it was like to be
17 a lawyer and a politician. I learned an awful lot.

18 He taught adult bible classes at
19 St. James Lutheran Church where he was active. He
20 served on Church Council. He even served as an
21 interim pastor. When the pastor was not able to be
22 there, Al would serve, and deliver the sermon from
23 the pulpit.

24 He taught seminars throughout
25 Pennsylvania on property assessment. This was an

1 area of his expertise. He was a lecturer at many
2 of our local Bar seminars. And professionally was
3 active in a practice of law, as I said, for
4 52 years. This was longer than his father practiced
5 law. His father, Alfred K. Hettinger, Sr., was
6 likewise, a respected member of the Bar of Lehigh
7 County.

8 He was an assistant solicitor
9 for Lehigh County for 19 years. For many of the
10 years he was solicitor for the Assessment
11 Association of Pennsylvania. He served as Chairman
12 of the Continuing Legal Education Committee of the
13 Lehigh County Bar Association, and as noted by Judge
14 Platt, he was also past President of the Bar
15 Association.

16 He was also a Lieutenant in the
17 United States Army Reserve, a tank commander, a
18 Patriot. He was also a 32nd Degree Mason at the
19 Lehigh Consistory, and he was a character. When you
20 got to know Al, you got to see, as Paul Harvey says,
21 the other side of the story.

22 He absolutely loved Halloween.
23 On trick or treat night, he was at the door ready to
24 give tricks, or treats, and by his side was his dog,
25 wearing a Halloween mask. The kids were always

1 entertained by his antics -- not the dog's, Al's.

2 His home received an inordinate
3 amount of phone calls. No one wanted to talk to
4 Joanne, or Al. They were calling to listen to the
5 current message that he put on his answering
6 machine.

7 Each month he had a different
8 message. Thanksgiving was Tom Turkey, December was
9 Ebenezer Scrooge, or in another given month you
10 might find, Grover, and another month, the Cookie
11 Monster. And he could imitate those voices until
12 you chuckled so hard you just could not take it.

13 And he loved his dogs. Joanne
14 told me that they would vacation, and take their
15 dogs with them. If the dogs weren't welcome where
16 they wanted to go, they didn't go there. They
17 traveled with their dogs.

18 Our firm had just moved into new
19 quarters at 7th and Hamilton. New rugs, new
20 furnishings, the smell of newness was in the office.
21 We were so excited.

22 Al brought Merlin, his Standard
23 Poodle, into the office. At one point, Merlin, who
24 was huge, and was black as coal, left Al's office
25 and came into my office. He relieved himself on my

1 rug. I was livid. And I called Al into my office,
2 and I said, look what your dog did. And he said to
3 me, he said, now you don't have to worry. I said
4 worry about what? He said, where the first stain is
5 coming from.

6 Believe me, if I would have had
7 a revolver, excuse me, with one bullet, I don't know
8 who I would have shot, Al, or the dog. I don't
9 know, Jeff, I think the stain is still there.

10 But of all the things he loved
11 outside his family, he loved the law. I know it
12 sounds trite to say he loved the law. When a lawyer
13 says this about another lawyer, we anticipate that's
14 going to be said, but Al did love the law.

15 He was my preceptor at a time
16 when it was thought that new practitioners needed
17 guidance before they were released out into the
18 public to represent clients. Al taught me that the
19 law was sacred. He taught me that ethics mattered.

20 Joanne shared a story with me.
21 One time Al was leaving -- He always used the Day
22 Timer. Lawyers at that time would write down the
23 clients, who they are going to be, where they had to
24 be, and he was leaving for the office, and he said
25 to Joanne, I have an appointment this morning, but I

1 don't know with whom. I can't read my handwriting.
2 He had terrible handwriting.

3 And so he said, well, I guess it
4 will be a surprise. And so he went into the office,
5 and when he came home, Joanne said, well, did you
6 find out who the client was? And he said, yes. She
7 said, well, who was it? He said, I can't tell you.
8 There's a lesson there for all of us. Client
9 confidentiality.

10 He was always teaching. Among
11 the papers that Suzy Young, his secretary of many,
12 many years found, was a memo he once wrote to his
13 colleagues at the Bar. It was dated November 1,
14 2005. It was on being a lawyer.

15 He addressed many of the issues
16 that older practitioners always address when they
17 try to pass observations down to the new crop of
18 lawyers coming into the Bar. He referenced the many
19 detractors which we as lawyers, have facing us in
20 our profession. He said we can overcome those
21 detractors. And I'm going to read from the memo,
22 one particular paragraph of what he wrote. These
23 were Al's words.

24 This will not be easy,
25 overcoming the detractors. It will require a return

1 to ethical standards of prior years, and a
2 commitment to professionalism that to me today,
3 seems sadly lacking in both older and younger
4 practitioners. It will require us to remember that
5 we have been given a precious gift, and with that
6 gift comes responsibility. The gift is the
7 education and training that we have, to enable us to
8 do what others without the training cannot do, to
9 represent people in Court, and assist them in a
10 professional, legal manner.

11 The responsibility is that we
12 must exercise that gift for all people, regardless
13 of their backgrounds, or their ability to pay. We
14 must take responsibility to assist those who need
15 our services, without reference to our own economic
16 needs.

17 We must not let a bleeding
18 humanity, be unattended; in addition, passed by on
19 the other side. Until we do this, we deserve the
20 butt of the terrible jokes, and we deserve what the
21 detractors say about us.

22 If it were possible, I know
23 where Al is right now. He is sitting in a chair,
24 with a yellow legal pad, and a cup of iced tea, and
25 he is doing two things. He is critiquing me, and he

1 is taking attendance. He is seeing who is here.

2 I thank you for being here, for
3 attending, for coming to share in the memorial that
4 we have had for Al. Some of you don't know his
5 name. Some of you knew him, but didn't know much
6 about him. I knew him like some of you knew him.
7 He was my teacher, my mentor, my friend.

8 Thank you.

9 JUDGE REIBMAN: Thank you, Mr.
10 Turczyn.

11 JUDGE PLATT: Thank you, Tom.

12 The next speaker will be Robert
13 Long, Esquire, who will be talking in regard to
14 Richard Buss, Esquire.

15 MR. LONG: Thank you.

16 May it please the Court?

17 JUDGE REIBMAN: Mr. Long.

18 MR. LONG: Judge Platt, ladies
19 and gentlemen, Dick Buss died on September 5th,
20 2015, at the age of 86. He was survived by his
21 wife, Doris, two sons, two daughters and their
22 husbands, and five grandchildren.

23 He was an Army Veteran of the
24 Korean War. He was a graduate of Muhlenberg
25 College, and also Temple Law School. He was

1 admitted to practice in 1964.

2 I didn't meet Dick until 1976.
3 I had just passed the Bar, and one of my classmates
4 at Villanova was Scott Oberholtzer. I don't know
5 if anybody new Scott. I know Sam did. Scott's dad
6 was a life-long resident of Whitehall. So was Dick.
7 And they were friends.

8 So Scott was able to get a
9 clerkship, or an unpaid clerkship with Dick Buss and
10 Bill Eckensberger, who were partners at the time.
11 He had worked for them for the past three summers,
12 but when Scott passed the Bar exam, he took a job
13 with the District Attorney's Office here in Lehigh
14 County.

15 So he knew I wasn't employed
16 yet. So Scott called me up and said, look, why
17 don't you call up Buss and Eckensberger. I know
18 that they need somebody there, because I just quit.
19 So I called up Dick, and Dick told me, why don't you
20 come in tomorrow morning, and we will interview you.
21 And I was interviewed by Dick and Bill the next
22 morning, and by that afternoon I had my position in
23 the firm.

24 Dick, after I met him, he really
25 didn't go into Court. I don't know if he did a lot

1 of court work before I met him, but it was through
2 Dick that I actually got my court experience,
3 because for some reason Dick and Judge Coyne, who
4 was the Orphans' Court Judge, and the President
5 Judge at the time, did not get along, and Dick
6 refused to go into Orphans' Court.

7 So he would give me files for
8 audit, like the night before, or the afternoon
9 before, and say, take this into Orphans' Court.
10 Don't worry about it, you know, everything is okay.
11 You won't have any problems.

12 Well, Judge Coyne knew that I
13 was in there for Dick, and he gave me problems. He
14 asked me all these questions, and I would be
15 rustling through the papers, trying to find the
16 answers. And eventually Judge Coyne would say, ahh,
17 I see you're carrying water for Mr. Buss again. So
18 that went on. But that's how I got my experience,
19 and my first appearances in the Court of Common
20 Pleas of Lehigh County, because Dick sent me into
21 Orphans' Court, because he wouldn't go.

22 Dick practiced mainly in the
23 areas of estates and wills, and municipal law. He
24 was the solicitor for the Coplay Whitehall Sewer
25 Authority for a long time. And I had been an unpaid

1 clerk in the Solicitor's Office for the City of
2 Allentown when Judge Black was the solicitor. I
3 was there for one summer. So I initially was
4 interested in municipal law. I used to go to the
5 sewer authority meetings with Dick, but I never
6 really got into that field then.

7 I did learn how to interview
8 clients through Dick. When I first joined the firm
9 I didn't have any clients of my own, so I would
10 always sit through the interviews with Dick and Bill
11 when they had their clients.

12 Dick would never rush with a
13 client, even if it meant that the following client
14 would come in late. Dick would make sure that both
15 he and the client knew exactly what they were doing;
16 that they were both on the same page. And he also
17 took voluminous notes. He would take notes of just
18 about everything that was said. And to this day, I
19 take pretty good notes, as you know, as far as when
20 I talk to clients, and talk to witnesses.

21 In the late 80's, we were joined
22 by Attorney Todd Lahr. Todd is out of town today,
23 and he couldn't be here, but he did want me to read
24 a message from him when he knew I was going to be
25 giving this memorial. And this is from Todd:

1 I will always be grateful to
2 Richard C. Buss for allowing me to become a partner
3 in the law firm back in 1987. I grew up in the
4 Nazareth area, but had moved to Colorado, and I was
5 working for a large firm in Denver.

6 I loved Colorado, but I did not enjoy the
7 huge law firm environment, so I moved back to
8 Pennsylvania, and became a partner with Richard Buss
9 and Robert Long. From there I was able to help
10 build a legal practice in the Lehigh Valley with
11 Dick and Bob.

12 Dick loved to hunt and fish.
13 He always had a hunting cabin up in Potter County,
14 whenever I knew him. I never got involved with
15 hunting. I was never really a fan of getting up
16 when it was still dark outside, and walking up and
17 down a mountain in knee deep snow when it was
18 freezing outside, so I didn't go hunting with him.

19 But I did go to the Sportsman
20 Show every February out in Harrisburg at the Farm
21 Show Arena. Dick and I would go out there with a
22 friend of his, John Pebbles. And we would spend the
23 day walking around looking at all of the new hunting
24 and fishing equipment. And Dick would walk around
25 to all of these outfitters in order to book trips,

1 either hunting trips, or fishing trips.

2 Dick hunted moose in Canada. He
3 hunted mule deer in Montana, and he hunted elk up by
4 the Arctic Circle. And in fact, if you would go to
5 Dick's house to visit him, you would see two elk
6 heads on the wall that he had gotten when he was up
7 in the Arctic Circle.

8 I was more of a fisherman, and
9 even then, I wasn't that good at it, but I enjoyed
10 it. When I was a kid I would go to Muhlenberg Lake
11 with some friends, and some dry bread, and throw it
12 in the water and try to catch fish. But then when I
13 got old enough where I needed to buy a license, I
14 quit fishing.

15 But after I joined Dick, he
16 talked me into going fishing again. And I will
17 remember the first day we went out to buy some new
18 equipment for me, because I didn't have any. We
19 bought a rod and reel, and then we got to the
20 section of the store where the lures were. And Dick
21 was like a kid in a candy store. He would show me
22 all of these lures. Look at this, isn't this really
23 a nice color, and this would have great action. He
24 goes, I have three of these lures. And I would ask
25 him, did you catch many fish with it, and he would

1 say, no, but it looks really neat. And that's how
2 he bought his lures, because they looked really
3 neat.

4 When I first met him he had a
5 small, like row boat with a motor on the back. And
6 we would be chugging along different lakes fishing.
7 But then at one of his Sportsman shows he bought
8 himself a real bass boat, with a big engine. And
9 the first time he took it out we went up to
10 Beltzville Lake, and we were just tooling around the
11 lake at about 50 miles an hour. And he had a big
12 grin on his face, because he really liked cranking
13 out the engine and running around the lake.

14 We'd go up to Canada to fish
15 just about every year. His two sons, Danny and
16 Davey would go along, and his brother, Donny,
17 Donny's son, who was Glenn, and Donny's son-in-law,
18 who was also Glenn -- I would call them Glenn square
19 when we were up there -- and three of Dick's best
20 friends from Whitehall, Joe Ludwig, Carlton Berger,
21 and John Maruschak. And we would go up fishing.
22 Like I said, every year we went a week up to Canada,
23 right around the opening of bass season.

24 And Dick would always get me up
25 early in the morning when it was still dark out.

1 And I'm not a morning person. I wasn't then, and
2 I'm not now. And we would get up while it was dark.
3 We would get dressed. We would go to the lodge. We
4 would have breakfast. And we got out on the lake
5 just as the sun was coming up.

6 And then 90 percent of the time
7 we wouldn't catch a fish until about 9:00 o'clock or
8 9:30 in the morning. And I kept complaining to him,
9 why are we getting up so early? Can't we get up
10 like at 7:30, 8:00 o'clock, have breakfast, then go
11 out at 9:00, 9:30, and catch our fish?

12 No, that didn't work that way.
13 We had to get up really early, and just sit around
14 the boat for about three hours before we caught our
15 first fish. In fact, as it got into the afternoon,
16 a lot of times if it was hot out, and sunny, and
17 calm, I would fall sleep in the boat because I was
18 so tired from getting up too early.

19 We would fish maybe in one place
20 for 15 minutes, and if we didn't catch anything,
21 Dick would say pull your line in, we're going
22 someplace else, and he would zoom to another part of
23 the lake. And it wasn't because he really wanted --
24 really thought that there was better fishing
25 someplace else, but I think it was because he really

1 wanted to just drive that boat fast on the lake. He
2 did that all the time.

3 Dick would always tell me about
4 his flying trips. He would take some trips with his
5 friend where they actually had to fly into an area
6 of Canada that you couldn't drive to. And one year
7 he finally invited me to the flying trip. And it
8 turned out that that year it was extra cold up in
9 Canada, and the ice didn't come out early enough for
10 the flying trip, because the plane couldn't take off
11 from the lake. So for about three or four extra
12 days we just sat in a motel room up in Canada
13 waiting for the ice to go out, and played cards.
14 That was my one and only flying trip with Dick. He
15 didn't take me after that. I guess maybe I was bad
16 luck or something.

17 Dick retired in 2004, but even
18 after that, I would see him about every month to two
19 months. He would call me up and ask if I would join
20 him for breakfast at Panera's in Whitehall. And of
21 course, he was retired. And I had my own practice.
22 So we could have met for lunch, but knowing Dick,
23 no, it had to be breakfast. I had to get up early,
24 and I had to be in Whitehall by 7:30, 8:00 o'clock
25 to meet him.

1 find that out someplace else.

2 I was startled in preparing
3 these words to realize that only a small portion of
4 the present Bar actually knew Madaline Palladino,
5 who was an active member of the Bar in her time, but
6 everyone knows of her. As I said my homage to her
7 today is not going to list all the many awards, and
8 achievements of her life, because those are
9 recorded, and are knowable to anyone who wishes to
10 know.

11 Today I want to make her real
12 once again to those of us who knew her, and to those
13 of us who didn't. She is often referred to as the
14 first woman to practice in Lehigh County, although
15 that is apparently not accurate. The first two are
16 lost in the midst of time. But without a doubt, she
17 was the first and only woman to make an indelible
18 mark as the sole female presence in the Bar. It is
19 an accomplishment that no one will ever eclipse.
20 What a presence it was.

21 She was the daughter of the late
22 Joseph and Angelina Palladino, Italian immigrants
23 who settled in Allentown's heavily Italian 10th
24 Ward. She grew up in a family of achievers. All of
25 her siblings became well respected professionals.

1 Her father was a barber, and he
2 encouraged her to pursue law. She recalls that
3 sometimes when she voiced this aspiration in school,
4 she was told, oh, you're going to the factory like
5 all of the other Italian girls. However, a Harrison
6 Morton teacher, Marcia Krevsky, believed her
7 students could achieve anything they wanted.

8 Judge Palladino earned a
9 scholarship -- at that time she was Madaline
10 Palladino -- earned a scholarship to the University
11 of Pennsylvania. And then she went on to be one of
12 the only two women enrolled in her class at Columbia
13 Law School, from which she earned her law degree in
14 1945.

15 She worked as a solo
16 practitioner in New York for a year in the city,
17 and then returned to Allentown where she worked
18 for Scoblionko and Frank, and spent five years
19 there. Now this would have been the father of Mark
20 Scoblionko, who is a current member of our Bar.

21 In 1960, she became the first
22 female Assistant District Attorney in Lehigh County,
23 under District Attorney George Joseph. She was also
24 the first female Assistant Solicitor in the City of
25 Allentown.

1 In celebrating its hundredth
2 anniversary, the Bar Association created a valuable
3 treasure of video interviews of some of its more
4 history making members. And Karolyn Blume
5 interviewed Judge Palladino. And I really wanted
6 to read to you now, some of the Judge's words to
7 her.

8 She recalled the Bar at that
9 time. She said there were 150 to 120 members of the
10 Bar. We all knew everybody. Each of us knew who
11 all of the other members of the Bar were. It was a
12 very close-knit, and intimate kind of association.

13 For example, if one member died,
14 the telephone would ring in the office of every
15 other lawyer to announce what had happened, telling
16 us when and where the Bar would meet. We would go
17 in unison to a funeral home, or wherever the
18 ceremony was being held.

19 It was the same way with the
20 funeral itself, whether it was in a synagogue, or if
21 it was in a church, we all went as a group. It was
22 a very tight-knit association. I'm sure with the
23 large numbers now, some of that has been lost, and
24 understandably so.

25 The other thing that was very

1 marked in my own experience, if you had a
2 conversation with a lawyer, either on the street, on
3 the telephone, or in the office, and you reached an
4 agreement about some item that was relevant to a
5 pending case, or a dispute between you, a shake of
6 the hand, or ascent to the arrangement was all that
7 was necessary.

8 Now, that was because of the
9 informalities of the practice at that time. We
10 didn't have to follow up with letters of
11 confirmation. We never had to do that, and we
12 didn't do that.

13 Madaline Palladino was, and she
14 wasn't, one of the boys. She described some of her
15 experiences at the Bar meetings. We would first
16 have a business meeting. Then we would have a
17 dinner. Then we would have some entertainment. And
18 at one time, unknown to me, my male colleagues
19 decided that they were going to do a play.

20 Somebody wrote a play called,
21 "She is the Madame of the Bar." They presented
22 this on the stage at the Elk's Club, and Bill
23 Wickkiser, who was a former football player, about
24 six-foot two, weighing maybe 175 at that time, was
25 Madaline. They had songs and dancing, and the

1 lyrics of one of those songs sticks in my mind. She
2 makes all of her motions in open court, and she goes
3 to bed with the Atlantic Report.

4 Judge Palladino went on to say
5 it was very funny. It was very satirical, but it
6 was very significant to me, because it said that the
7 boys have accepted you; you are one of them.

8 It was clever. We had a piano
9 player whose name was Ham Neely, a member of the
10 Bar. Now, that would be the father of our Craig
11 Neely. And she goes on to say, Ham was very good at
12 the piano. I think he wrote some of the songs, and
13 Bill Wickkiser wrote some of the lyrics. It was
14 very clever.

15 Judge Palladino also told me a
16 story one time that then did appear in her memoirs,
17 so it must have been something that was something
18 that really stuck with her.

19 She rose to secretary/treasurer
20 of the Bar Association, but she had resigned because
21 of the practice -- responsibilities of her practice.
22 When she resigned, they had a presentation for her,
23 and I will quote her. "They handed me a gift in a
24 red box. I started walking back to my table, and he
25 said, oh, no, you have to open it. So I opened it,

1 and to my chagrin, it turned out to be this black
2 bra, which says, Lehigh County Bar Association
3 secretary/treasurer.

4 The guffaws still linger in my
5 mind. And of course I started again to return to my
6 table. The raucous crowd of male members of the
7 legal community kept saying, try it on, try it on,
8 which of course, I want you to know, I refused to.
9 And this was so significant, because she was so
10 female at the time when the bar was raucous.

11 She went on to say, actually I
12 enjoyed the specialized treatment of my singularity.
13 If they said "she" in reference to the lawyer
14 population, there was no doubt that they were
15 talking about Madaline, because there was no other
16 "she." She cheerfully put up with the harassment,
17 but eventually fell away from attending Bar events,
18 especially the more raucous ones.

19 Her gallant acceptance of her
20 special position had special grace. She was one of
21 the boys, but she was always a lady. In the early
22 1980s, I remember that she still wore white gloves
23 as she walked down Hamilton Street to lunch. She
24 was always a lady, a lady lawyer, with the grace of
25 her gender, and the toughness of her profession.

1 You might think someone of her
2 stature who enjoyed her own accomplishments might
3 jealously guard her territory when other women
4 eventually came to join the party, but that was not
5 the case. Shortly after I became a member of the
6 Bar in 1974, she invited me and Audrey Racines, who
7 had preceded me at the Bar by a few years, to lunch
8 at the Lehigh Consistory. And Audrey, I am so happy
9 to see you are here today.

10 At that small table being of
11 different ages, coming from different family
12 situations and political allegiances, which were no
13 small thing in that day, we broke the first bread as
14 women of Lehigh County. She imparted some wisdom to
15 us, but I don't remember what it was.

16 The wisdom that she gave to me
17 was in the way that she practiced law. She was
18 never meek. She was never afraid. She was in your
19 face, but she remembered her manners. I don't
20 believe I ever heard her swear, or adopt some of the
21 courser techniques of some members of the Bar, such
22 as bullying. Instead, she was cheerfully obstinate.

23 I have to mention her unique
24 way of placing a call. She would always spell her
25 name in almost a song. M-a-d-a-l-i-n-e

1 P-a-l-l-a-d-i-n-o. To this day, I do not have to
2 look up her name to spell it the right away.

3 When Madaline Palladino went on
4 the Commonwealth Court appointed by Dick Thornburgh
5 in 1980, she turned over several cases to me. I'm
6 sure it was not her entire portfolio, but for a
7 fairly new lawyer, it seemed like the mother load.
8 She graciously declined any offer of a share of the
9 fee.

10 She ran a state-wide campaign
11 for the seat in 1981 and lost. She ran in 1983, and
12 won. She graced the Commonwealth Court until 1994.
13 After she ascended to the Bench, the Lehigh County
14 Bar saw little of her. Allentown continued to be
15 her home; and in fact, she served as County
16 Solicitor during the administration of her loyal
17 friend, Jane Baker.

18 After her total retirement,
19 Judge Palladino's eminence and prestige continued
20 to dominate the landscape. Her life, though
21 private, continued on with the same sense of courage
22 and adventure. For her 80th birthday, she took
23 flying lessons. She insisted that the world afford
24 her the same respect that they would her male
25 counterparts.

1 It is known that she dressed
2 down nursing staff. When hospitalized at a local
3 hospital, she was given a Styrofoam cup with the
4 name Madaline written on it. She rightly pointed
5 out to the head nurse, that had she been a man, the
6 name on the cup would have been, Judge, and it was
7 promptly corrected.

8 Her greatest contribution is
9 not her long list of accomplishments, nor her
10 primacy in leadership, although those are
11 unquestioned. Her greatest contribution was paving
12 the way of a sole practitioner, born to a family of
13 humble means, without social connections, trudging
14 upstream, with the added complication of being a
15 woman in a man's world. She did it with courage,
16 grit, and grace, attributes that the women, and the
17 men of the Bar, could and should, always emulate.

18 She was always a lady, and was
19 proud to be called, lady lawyer. It doesn't matter
20 how many women ever come to the Bar in Lehigh
21 County, or what they accomplish, after Madaline,
22 Judge, we will always, all of us be alsos. We will
23 miss her.

24 JUDGE REIBMAN: Thank you,
25 Judge McGinley.

1 JUDGE PLATT: Thank you, Carol,
2 and I must add Judge to that as well.

3 These ceremonies are about to
4 close. I want to thank all of the speakers who
5 allowed us all, and me personally, an opportunity to
6 remember some things, and to learn something new,
7 which I always do at a Bar Memorial.

8 I want to thank Jenna Fliszar
9 who is the chairman of the committee that put this
10 thing together. It's awfully hard work to do, and
11 awfully unappreciated at times.

12 Judge Reibman?

13 JUDGE REIBMAN: Thank you,
14 Judge Platt.

15 I would like to acknowledge the
16 presence of retired Judge Robert Young, retired
17 Judge William Ford, the District Attorney of Lehigh
18 County, Jim Martin, the newly elected Sheriff of
19 Lehigh County, Joe Hanna, United States Magistrate
20 Henry Perkin, and also former County Executive, Jane
21 Baker.

22 Each member of the Court, as
23 well as each of us, has treasured memories of those
24 who were memorialized here this morning. The Court
25 expresses our appreciation to the Bar Association

1 for continuing this tradition, to Judge Platt, and
2 Attorney Fliszar, Chair of the Bar Memorial
3 Committee, for their hard work in making this
4 ceremony a success, and to the speakers who have so
5 beautifully memorialized our departed colleagues.

6 They have helped to continue a
7 great tradition, allowed us to share in the lives
8 of our departed members, and to learn or be reminded
9 of some of the qualities we wish to emulate.

10 We are grateful for the lives
11 of those that we have honored today, and for
12 their commitment to the principles of justice
13 that we all share. We are grateful for the
14 attendance of all who came to remember, and we
15 especially thank the family members, friends, and
16 associates of our departed colleagues for sharing
17 them with us. They have enriched our lives, as well
18 as yours.

19 The official court reporter is
20 directed to transcribe the notes of testimony, and
21 to make a digital copy of it available to the Bar
22 Association of Lehigh County. The Bar Association
23 will publish the transcript on its home page,
24 WWW.lehighbar.org. One may read, print, or download
25 it from that site.

1 At this time we will adjourn
2 this ceremony, and when we do it, it will be out
3 of respect for our departed colleagues in honor of
4 the profession of law which they served, and its
5 honorable traditions in Lehigh County.

6 May I remind you that the Bar
7 Association has invited all of us to the hallway
8 immediately adjoining this courtroom for some after
9 ceremony refreshments.

10 Mr. Poh, you may now adjourn
11 Court.

12 MR. POH: Please rise.

13 This Honorable Court Stands
14 adjourned.

15 (Whereupon, the Bar Memorial
16 Ceremony was concluded.)

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

I hereby certify that the proceedings and evidence are contained fully and accurately in the notes taken by me in the hearing of the above cause and that this is a correct transcript of the same.

Date: _____

Matthew Giovannini, Jr., RPR
Official Court Stenographer