

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA  
2019 BAR MEMORIALS

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2020  
9 o'clock a.m.  
Courtroom No. 2-A  
Lehigh County Courthouse  
Allentown, Pennsylvania

THE LIVES OF THOSE BEING REMEMBERED

Howard Stark  
John Evanoff  
Paul Florenz  
R. Eric Hall  
Kathleen Mills  
Thomas Traud  
William Schantz  
Harold Funt  
Robert Brown  
Raymond DeRaymond

Honorable Edward D. Reibman, P.J.  
Honorable Robert L. Steinberg, J.  
Honorable J. Brian Johnson, J.  
Honorable Kelly L. Banach, J.  
Honorable James T. Anthony, J.  
Honorable Michele A. Varricchio, J.  
Honorable Douglas G. Reichley, J.  
Honorable Melissa T. Pavlack, J.  
Honorable Anna-Kristie M. Marks, J.

R. Lenore Wagner, RPR  
Official Court Reporter

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COURT CRIER: All rise, please.

The Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of Lehigh County, Pennsylvania.

(Whereupon, the Honorable Judges of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Lehigh County, entered the courtroom.)

COURT CRIER: OYEZ, OYEZ, OYEZ, all manner of persons having anything to do before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of Lehigh County, which had its origin in Westminster, was created under the Constitution of 1790 and which has been in continuous session since December 21st, 1812, and which is here holden this day, let them come forward and they shall be heard. God save the Commonwealth and this Honorable Court.

Please be seated.

PRESIDENT JUDGE REIBMAN: Ladies and gentlemen, good morning.

THE AUDIENCE: Good morning.

PRESIDENT JUDGE REIBMAN: On behalf of my colleagues of the Court of Common Pleas of Lehigh County, I personally welcome you to the annual bar memorial ceremony sponsored jointly by the Bar Association of Lehigh County and this Court.

Joining me on the bench in order of seniority

are the Honorable Robert Steinberg, J. Brian Johnson, Kelly L. Banach, James T. Anthony, Michele A. Varricchio, Douglas G. Reichley, Melissa T. Pavlack and Anna-Kristie Murphy Marks.

Unfortunately, Judge Maria Dantos was unable to make it this morning.

I would also like to recognize other judges and elected officials who are here, and if I've missed anyone, it's my fault, not anyone else's: The Honorable Lawrence Brenner, a former member of this Court; District Attorney Jim Martin; Chief Public Defender Kim MaKoul; former President Judge of this Court, Carol McGinley, and the United States District Court Judges, Edward Smith and Jay Leeson.

We welcome them, as well as you.

I would ask you to take a moment to check your cell phones and make sure they're on silent.

In this special session of the Court, we pause to remember to pay respects to those members of our bar association, our colleagues, who have passed away during the previous year. Those of us in the legal profession and those who live or work among us know that our days in this profession are often long. It is at this time, however, that we are reminded that our years are short.

A little more than a week ago we admitted new members to our bar with great joy as they commence their professional lives and with great hope that they will do well for themselves and their clients, and do good for our community and our profession.

Now we have a more somber but no less important duty of paying respects to our departed colleagues. "Birth is the beginning and death is the destination; life is the journey between them." In remembering our departed colleagues and the journey they took, we also remind ourselves of our own mortality, the kind of life we live and the legacy we will leave behind.

The Court recognizes the President of the Bar Association of Lehigh County, Attorney Robert Daday.

MR. DADAY: Thank you, Your Honor.

May it please the Court. We gather today for what could be our finest tradition, the annual bar memorial. This is at least a 114 year tradition, dating back to the beginning of this esteemed organization.

Today we will be honoring and celebrating the lives of members of our bar who have passed away during the year 2019. We thank the Court for its continued commitment for clearing the Court calendar to join us and assist as we pay tribute to our

members.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Attorney Janet Fliszar, who diligently and wholeheartedly volunteers every year to help us with organizing this celebration of life.

Today we gather to honor the memory of Paul Florenz, who will be remembered by Constantine Vasiliadis; R. Eric Hall, who will be remembered by Mike Piosa; Kathleen Mills, who we will be remembered by Joseph Bubba; Thomas Traud, who will be remembered by his son Benjamin Traud; William Schantz, who will be remembered by James Martin; Harold Funt, who will be remembered by Kristie Beitler; Robert Brown, who will be remembered by John Grayson, and Raymond DeRaymond, who will be remembered by The Honorable Edward Smith.

By special note, by the request of family members, Eric Hall and Paul Florenz, who passed away in 2018, are being memorialized today.

We will begin by recognizing the passing of Howard Stark February 19th, 2019. Howard is a native of Johnstown, Pennsylvania, who moved to the Lehigh Valley after attending the University of Pittsburgh and completing law school at Dickinson School of Law.

He had a distinguished career as a trial

attorney here in Allentown, with an office at Sixth and Hamilton.

Howard was an adventurer at heart. He hiked the Appalachian Trail from Georgia to Maine, summited at Mt. Kilimanjaro twice and could be found white water rafting or on the ski slopes.

Howard was married for thirty years to Sharon C. Stark, who, with him, had two children, Julie and Howard.

We would also like to recognize John Evanoff, who passed away on August 13, 2019. John was a native of Erie, Pennsylvania, and obtained his undergraduate and law degree from the University of Pittsburgh.

John was not only an accomplished lawyer, but he was also a black belt in karate and an avid boxing fan, so much of a boxing fan, John was the co-founder of Bizzarro Boxing Gym in Erie, along with Lou Bizzarro, who went fourteen rounds with the legendary Roberto Duran.

John was an extremely proud father of Alexa and Anthony and will be extremely missed by his community.

Now it is my pleasure to introduce speaker Constantine Vasiliadis, who will honor Paul Florenz.

MR. VASILIADIS: Thank you.

May it please the Court.

PRESIDENT JUDGE REIBMAN: Mr. Vasiliadis.

MR. VASILIADIS: Members of the bar, family and friends of the attorneys we are going to memorialize today, I have the honor, though sadly, to tell you something of Paul Florenz. Although most of the Court and members of the bar knew Attorney Florenz, many of the young lawyers had not the opportunity to meet or interact with him. That's a shame because Paul was a gentleman and an outstanding lawyer.

Paul was born in Maine, attended Phillips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts, where he told the story he and George W. Bush were there at the same time.

Paul's journey to the Lehigh Valley began at Dickinson College, where he met and later married Jane Kolb, the daughter of the late Jacob Kolb, an esteemed and respected member of the bar for fifty years.

At Dickinson, Paul had a double major in English and Geology. Upon graduation, he and Jane went to Hawaii, where he pursued his interest in Marine Geology.

Fortunately for the law, Paul changed direction, and after a year went on to the New England School of Law.



Paul began his practice with the firm of Kolb, Holman, Antonelli & Hefner, and thereafter practiced with Jake together as Kolb & Florenz.

Paul was a hardworking attorney, and his capacity to handle a heavy caseload was severely tested when Jacob took a sabbatical from the firm to guide Muhlenberg Medical Hospital through some very difficult times. Upon Jake's return, the firm was as vibrant as when he had left. Paul was a worthy steward.

Paul and I met when we first worked together when he became my assistant in the City of Bethlehem Solicitor's Office. Those interactions convinced us that we would work well together, and so Jacob, Paul and I merged our practices to form Kolb, Vasiliadis & Florenz. That association lasted from 1991 until Paul's untimely death in 2018.

Paul had an office practice that centered on wills, trusts, estate administration and business law.

To his clients, he was not only a trusted adviser and counselor, but also a warm and caring friend. Paul represented a wide variety of clients that included Lehigh University, Moravian College, car dealerships, Lutheran Manor and enumerable estate planning clients.

Paul was a fixture in adoption court, where his expertise helped to create many new families.

At the heart of all of his client interactions was a genuine regard for the welfare of his clients, and they loved him.

Practicing law with Paul was an unrivalled pleasure. His dry sense of humor and sage advice shared at the end of a long day helped put into proper perspective why we were lawyers. And the hectic day-to-day grind of the office, Paul's demeanor of relaxed friendliness created an atmosphere in which it was a pleasure to practice.

Who can forget Paul in his vintage Santa Clause hat handing out presents at the office Christmas party. And, of course, the office always rang in the New Year with a class of Paul's bourbon eggnog, painstakingly prepared the night before, and he assured us he taste-tested to make sure it was perfect.

No birthday party for the office staff was complete unless there was a cake and an arousing happy birthday sung and led by Paul and his melodious voice.

His longtime secretary Monica recalled that Paul always found a reason to go to the courthouse on a warm and sunny day so he could drive his yellow

Crossfire convertible during a good day. Upon his return, his hair may have been mussed, but his ever present bowtie was impeccably in place.

Paul gave generously of his time and talent to many civic groups. He held leadership positions with the Bach Choir, the Lutheran Home and Bethlehem Rotary.

Paul was a loving family man, and he and his wife Jane raised three wonderful children; Andrew, Katie and Martha were a credit to their communities and the family. Paul often spoke about how proud he was of them and their accomplishments; Andrew, a career Army officer; Katie, a former Marine and State Department officer, and Martha, a nurse and personal trainer.

They and Jane miss him. I miss him. The Lehigh County Bar is a better organization for his participation and his contributions to it and to the legal profession.

Thank you.

PRESIDENT JUDGE REIBMAN: Thank you, Mr. Vasiliadis.

MR. DADAY: Thank you, Mr. Vasiliadis.

Now, at this time, I would like to welcome Mr. Michael Piosa, who will honor Eric Hall.

MR. PIOSA: May it please the Court.

PRESIDENT JUDGE REIBMAN: Mr. Piosa.

MR. PIOSA: Ladies and gentlemen, I'm proud to be here to honor Robert Eric Hall, better known as Eric Hall. Eric was born here in the Lehigh Valley and attended Temple University School of Law. He graduated in 1984, and after graduation immediately started working at White and Williams in Philadelphia. He was involved primarily in defense work and medical malpractice defense work, which he was exceptionally good at right from the start. In fact, so good that after seven years, he was named a partner. He was a very popular, well-liked lawyer at the firm. He had a lot of friends. More than his legal work, Eric's personality defined his time at White and Williams. He had boundless energy and was always in a good mood.

When he wasn't working, he and his friends took up cycling, and as Eric is Eric, he went all in. It wasn't just part way. It seemed that every few months a car would hit him; he would bounce up. Of course, the driver replaced his bike with a new bike. This happened more than a couple of times. And every time it happened, Eric said, "If this happens one more time, I'm going to get myself a titanium bike," which at the time was top of the line. Unfortunately, it

did happen again, and Eric got his titanium bike, but by the hard way.

When Eric passed away, he had left White and Williams for several years. Nonetheless, his passing hit the firm very hard. He still had many friends there. He was remembered fondly as a fine lawyer, a funny man, a good friend, and a good man.

In 1989 -- getting back to White and Williams -- at the age of 29, Eric was sent up here to Allentown to open up the local office of White and Williams. When he got here, he immediately returned to cycling, and after many visits to the Velodrome, he became enamored by the international pro cyclists competing with one another. He was so enamored by their hard work and dedication that he himself began to compete as an amateur.

In 1997, Eric befriended a local cyclist, a local Olympic medal winner. Eric, having done work for the gentleman, he asked Eric if Eric wouldn't be his sports agent. Eric was overjoyed by that idea because it would give him an opportunity to combine his love of the law with his love of cycling.

He went to his partners at White and Williams and asked whether there was any interest in this, and they were very much interested because they saw it as

not only an opportunity to make some money, but also to get some publicity for the firm. So his first client, in fact, won a gold medal at Sidney.

Unfortunately, White and Williams didn't think that was enough. They wanted him to engage in professional athletes, like football players and basketball players, because that would be more lucrative and would also bring more publicity to the firm. So at their request he signed up to do that.

At that point, his life began to spiral out of control. Recruiting potential NBA and NFL players meant hanging out with them and doing what they do best. That meant his conference room was a local campus bar. He was introduced to a life-style that was like nothing he'd ever seen, but by the time he realized he had a problem with alcohol, it was too late.

As many of you know, in 2005, Eric was involved in a tragic accident; a life was lost, and he was sentenced to prison because of the charge of homicide by vehicle, DUI. It was a six to twelve year term, and he served it at Rockview.

I don't know that any of us really know what goes on in prisons, but Eric shared one experience with me that, unfortunately, occurred too many times

over the six years. Inmates found out that he was a lawyer, and they wanted him to get involved in their cases. They wanted him to write the briefs and do the research and file motions, file petitions. He couldn't do that, he didn't have a license, and if he did that, it probably meant that he would never ever get his license back. So as a result of refusing, he regularly was beat upon and had his life threatened.

We don't realize, I don't think any of us know, how much things change in a short period of time, in six years. For Eric, it was like a lifetime. He came out of the prison, and whatever happened left him completely lost and very concerned about what he was going to do the rest of his life.

He felt that life had passed him by, and the changes that had happened would be very difficult for him to deal with. He had to get reinstated to the bar, and he wondered whether or how clients would accept his past failings.

In 2012, he took a job at Gross, McGinley as a paralegal, and that's where I got to know Eric. His desk was right outside my office. Over time, I found him to be a very intelligent individual and lawyer, and a very passionate, hardworking and energized individual.

In March of 2015, he was reinstated in the practice of law. Again, his first concern was would he be able to pull this off. He was concerned again about what had passed him by and how potential clients would react to his past. Fortunately for him, it all worked out. He opened up a practice in Macungie, and in a very short period of time, he became very, very busy.

I got the chance to observe him practicing because I would spend time in his office, in fact, worked out of his office a little bit. It didn't matter whether a case was a small fender-bender or it was a more significant personal injury case or a large bad faith case, Eric jumped in all of them with the same enthusiasm, hard work, passion and energy. He wanted to make sure that he gave it his best shot and that he could achieve the best potential outcome.

Since the date of the accident, Eric committed his life to sobriety. He was so traumatized about what had happened, the routine meetings and the life-threatening acts, that he continued to struggle daily with the crime he committed. He knew he could never right the wrong, but he was determined not to have his story become someone else's story. He reached out to many organizations to see how he



could help. He began working with Mothers Against Drunk Drivers very soon after his release. MADD took a chance on Eric because they had never before worked with a criminal offender. This was a big deal. What would happen if Eric relapsed? Eric was very remorseful for what he had done, and he never forgave himself.

Eric would speak monthly at both the Lehigh and Berks County courthouses for the Victim Impact Panel in conjunction with that. He also spoke at the Caron Foundation, Wernersville on a monthly basis as part of their recovery program. He wanted to make a difference and help people with the addictions and was committed to doing it for the rest of his life.

Shortly after he left Gross, McGinley, as I said, he opened his own practice in Macungie, and notwithstanding his fears and concerns, in a very short period of time, his practice took off. He became very, very busy, and successful. In fact, in March of 2018, he settled one of the bigger bad faith cases here in Lehigh County. Notwithstanding that, he continued to struggle with his PTSD from the prison time, but he clearly was on the path, and it was a good one. He put his practice to good use.

It got busy. He hired an associate. And Eric rose from the ashes.

Unfortunately, he never got an opportunity to enjoy the success of his blooming practice. In November of 2018, he was involved in an accident at home, which resulted in him suffering a pulmonary embolism, and died.

Thank you.

PRESIDENT JUDGE REIBMAN: Thank you, Mr. Piosa.

MR. DADAY: Thank you, Mr. Piosa.

And now I'd like to welcome our next speaker, Joseph Bubba, who will honor Kathleen Mills.

MR. BUBBA: Good morning. May it please the Court.

PRESIDENT JUDGE REIBMAN: Mr. Bubba.

MR. BUBBA: Thank you for this opportunity.

Kathleen Mills passed away peacefully on February 1st, 2019, almost exactly one year ago today.

And before I begin, I want to acknowledge the absolute joy of Kathy's life, some of who were able to attend today, her children, Eugene, Stuart, Kat, Frances, and her grandson Ty.

When you hear about Kathy's professional life, you will learn that she did not spend much time in

private practice here in the Lehigh Valley. And I assume that many members of our bar never had a chance to interact or even meet with Kathy. That is our loss.

And I'm going to use two phrases, one no longer politically correct, to try to describe and summarize Kathy: "Tough broad" and "peachy-keen." If any of you knew Kathy, you know she would not be offended in any way by my 1960's Rat Pack like reference to a tough broad. Her clothes, her cigarettes, her political and social views were a throwback to another era, and she was proud of that. And by the same token, if you dealt with Kathy over the past several years, even if it was adversarial, you will know what I mean by peachy-keen.

Let me briefly talk about Kathy's remarkable professional career. Her C.V. was impressive. Kathy was born in Pittsburgh. She was an honors graduate of Trinity College and Duke Law and later the Senior Executive in Business Program at Stanford University.

Kathy was a trailblazer for women in our profession. She was one of the few women of her time to break into "Big Law." She was a partner at Reed Smith in Pittsburgh when there were no women partners at Reed Smith in Pittsburgh.

She then became in-house counsel for one of her clients, Bethlehem Steel, and found her way to the Lehigh Valley. Kathy worked her way up through a male-dominated company and industry, the Deputy General Counsel & Associate Secretary. She was also General Counsel for Human Resources.

I would like to acknowledge Curtis "Hank" Barnette, former General Counsel and then Chairman and CEO of Bethlehem Steel. The fact that Mr. Barnette would find the time to attend this morning is a testament of Kathy's contributions to the company that would become synonymous with her professional career. Thank you, Mr. Barnette.

She worked at Bethlehem Steel for over thirty years until it ceased operations. Kathy was one of the last employees, and in some circles, she effectively turned out the lights at Bethlehem Steel.

She then joined Fitzpatrick, Lentz & Bubba, working in our Employment Law and Labor Relations Group until her death last year. She was a font of information. She had dealt with every HR scenario you could imagine or create. She handled United Steel worker pickets, and as she shared with me, workers jumping in the Lehigh River and stealing ducks over the lunch break. She would dole out her advice in her

own unflappable way and move on to the next issue. Thus, the affectionate "tough broad" label.

We liked to call Kathy our "triage attorney," utilizing her thirty years of experience with the Steel. She can take a call on a crazy and time sensitive employment matter, and in a few calm minutes, walk a client through a maze of issues. We would often tell her she did not know how to bill. She just resolved problems without much fanfare and in a blink of an eye. And, oh, yeah, she would end the call no matter how difficult with, "Have a peachy-keen day."

I would like to mention just a few of her more significant professional accomplishments. She became Chair of the Judicial Administration Committee of the Pennsylvania Bar Association, and she was named the Select Lawyer in Labor and Employment Law. Kathy's professional work was exceptional, but that was only a small, very small, part of why everyone at FL&B was so fond of her and so impacted by her much too early passing.

Kathy is one of those people that you can confidently say left our community and our world in a much better place. She served on a variety of nonprofit boards, National Museum of Industrial

History and Historic Bethlehem, Inc., as a nod to her days at the Steel; the Paralegal Studies Program at Northampton Community College, Minsi Trails Council Boy Scouts of America, and many more.

But her real love, her real passion was improving the lives of underprivileged women and children. That's the flip side of her tough broad characterization. More than anything else, she was an outstanding children's advocate as evidenced by her involvement in organizations, such as, the Children's Coalition of Lehigh Valley, Gateway School of Lehigh Valley and Weller Health Education Center.

But more than anything else, she became known for her work with St. Luke's Visiting Nurse Association. She was a tireless volunteer at the VNA for over forty years. She managed their legal affairs and served as Board President.

But, just as importantly, she knitted hundreds upon hundreds of scarves, blankets, hats and mittens for the Young Mothers Program. She took a very special interest in that program designed to help women and their children overcome adversity.

She became the heart and soul of FL&B's community efforts. She rallied our employees around causes that were important to her and important to

others at the firm. Whether she was donating to our food drives or buying popcorn and cookies from employees' children, she always was the first to raise her hand when approached about a charitable donation. She led by quiet example, encouraging all of us to donate our time to families in need.

Her efforts were acknowledged by communities. She was a New York City's YWCA Woman of the Year, no small accomplishment. And her extraordinary contributions to the community was honored in 2016 when she received the Shining Star Award from St. Luke's University Health Network.

Kathy was an avid reader and loved mystery books. She loved to give. She loved attending her children's horse shows, theater performances and sporting events. She was an extraordinarily kind soul who positively impacted the lives of so many people. She had a work ethic second to none and an undauntable will to push through whatever challenges arose.

And no matter what she was going through, and she had her share of health issues over the past few years, she never complained. She had her cigarette out on the back porch, and when you asked her how she was doing, she would say "Peachy-keen."

Kathy's endless optimism and unconditional pleasant disposition have been missed. We know that Kathy's loss is felt by many in her life and the world around her.

Kathy, God speed and peachy-keen.

PRESIDENT JUDGE REIBMAN: Thank you, Mr. Bubba.

MR. DADAY: Thank you, Mr. Bubba.

And I would like to welcome at this time Benjamin Traud, who will honor his father, Tom Traud.

MR. TRAUD: Thank you.

May it please the Court.

PRESIDENT JUDGE REIBMAN: Mr. Traud.

MR. TRAUD: It's an honor to be here to speak on behalf of my father today. I kind of always suspected that I would come up to do this, but it happened a lot sooner than I had hoped.

My father was born in Allentown, living at Fourth and Tilghman Street with Tom Traud and Winifred (McGee) Traud, his parents. He went to Dieruff High School. After that, he went to the University of Pennsylvania, where he was the heavyweight wrestling champion. And then he went to Villanova Law School, where he graduated third in his class. And he clerked for Chief Justice Benjamin R. Jones of the



Pennsylvania Supreme Court. That's who I'm named after actually.

Clerking for the Chief Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court afforded him a lot of career opportunities. He could have worked for a big firm pretty much anywhere in the Commonwealth; however, he decided, alongside my mother, to move back to the area because this is where they were from. This is where they wanted to settle down. And this is where they wanted to have a family. So they moved to Catasauqua for a brief period of time before purchasing a home at 21st and Liberty Streets in Allentown.

When he first moved back to Allentown, he worked for a few firms. He also worked as an Assistant Public Defender. I remember this because when I was young, on Saturday mornings he would go down to the prison to meet with his clients and then leave there to meet my mother, my sister, my brothers and I at Ruchsville Inn for hotdogs and beer and hanging out before we went home for the night.

He worked with a number of top attorneys in the area, one of whom I remember having a conversation, telling me how, like clockwork, my father always left the office at 5 p.m. He would do that because he

wanted to come home, eat dinner with his family and take my brothers and I or my sister to whatever extracurricular activity might be going on. He enjoyed being involved with our lives. He would do that, and then he'd come home, go into his home office and do whatever work he needed to do to serve his clients' interests.

A recurring theme in my family life, whenever I think of my father, is he cared about being an attorney, serving his clients' interests, and he also cared about his family. That is what I think my father was about.

In 1991, he left some of the attorneys he was working with to have a solo practice, which he maintained until later. In 2000s is when my brothers and I joined him in the practice of law.

He took a lot of pride in some of the clients that he had. He represented the Catholic Diocese of Allentown, DeSales University, Lehigh Career and Technical Institute, among others.

But he also did a fantastic job for the regular people that came through his door looking for help. One of his old wrestling coaches from Dieruff High School was a client of his who came in fairly regularly. Neighbors from the Sixth Ward in Allentown

where he grew up would come in looking for help as well.

I had the opportunity in 2007, when I left the D.A.'s Office, to work with him. It was kind of a change because it was just me and one other attorney as opposed to being in court every day and a number of attorneys in the office. And I learned a lot from him on how to work well and serve my clients' interests. I also learned how to treat other attorneys with cordiality, professionalism, and those are the lessons I try to keep carrying with me every day as I continue to practice the law.

This week will be one year since my father passed away. It's been a fairly tough year for me, but what I do is, I think of what he meant to me, what he did for me and for my family, and it gets me through the days, the weeks, the months and the year that I have been dealing with, and for that, I am forever grateful.

Thank you.

PRESIDENT JUDGE REIBMAN: Thank you, Mr. Traud.

MR. DADAY: Thank you, Mr. Traud.

Now, it's my pleasure to introduce James Martin to honor Bill Schantz.

MR. MARTIN: May it please the Court.

PRESIDENT JUDGE REIBMAN: Mr. Martin.

MR. MARTIN: Pat, Wes, Andrew, family and friends of those others who are colleagues whom we memorialize today, honored guests and my colleagues of the Bar of the Court of Common Pleas of Lehigh County, it is my privilege to speak in tribute to my friend and our former colleague, William E. (Bill) Schantz, who died last April 9 at age ninety-two, in his sixty-second year as a lawyer. He was in active practice for over fifty years until retiring at age eighty-seven.

Bill was born in Allentown on October 4th, 1926, to Earl V. Schantz, Esquire and Irene Schantz. He was the third generation of Schantzes to practice law in Lehigh County. His grandfather was Milton (M.P.) Schantz, who was admitted to our bar in 1902. Bill's father Earl was admitted to the bar in 1919 having graduated from the University of Pennsylvania Law School. Bill himself was admitted on May 27, 1957, and he welcomed the fourth generation of Schantzes, his son Andrew, to the bar in 1996. Bill and Andrew practiced together for about fifteen years until Bill's retirement.

Worthy of note is that M.P. Schantz was the

Postmaster of Allentown, having been appointed by President McKinley and reappointed by President Theodore Roosevelt. M.P. was also one of "The Big Four" in Republican politics in Lehigh County.

Earnest Hemingway is credited with saying, "We make our own luck." Bill made his own luck on August 15, 1959, when he married his wife, Pat Vannatta. They were a loving married couple for over fifty-nine years at the time of Bill's death.

Bill was a graduate of the Allentown High School Class of 1944. That class had an exceptional number of achievers: the late Honorable Donald E. Wieand, who served as a judge on this Court and was later elected to the Superior Court of Pennsylvania, was a member; as was the Honorable David E. Mellenberg, who served as a judge on this court. A former mayor of the City of Allentown, Frank Fischl, and the former Governor of Vermont, Richard Snelling, were also both members; and my mentor, former partner, and friend, William C. Wickkiser, Esquire, was likewise a member of the Class of 1944.

After high school, Bill served in the Army Air Force during World War II. He attended Lafayette College. Later graduated from Muhlenberg College. He received his law degree from Dickinson School of Law.

Bill was a fifty-plus member and a Past President of the Bar Association of Lehigh County, serving as president in 1984.

When Bill was a young lawyer, the Bar Association typically held its annual summer picnic at Mahoning Valley Country Club outside of Lehigh. Since 1973, during my time at the bar, picnics were held at various places, including the former Locust Valley Country Club, Berkleigh Country Club, and now for many continuous years, the Brookside Country Club.

However, Bill decided in his presidential year, that he was going to recapture some of the nostalgia associated with bar picnics at Mahoning Valley. Thus, in the summer of 1984, the bar association decamped in Mahoning Valley Country Club, where, as usual, many of us played golf. At that time, we still played softball games between Democrats and Republicans. And under the leadership of the late Wally Worth, we tore up a portion of the practice green by playing quoits. For that reason, we were not invited back.

(Laughter.)

However, I am not sure that any of us would have voted to return to Mahoning Valley, because when we all came off the golf course on a very hot day, we were unable to take showers. There was no water.

This, of course, was not Bill's fault. However, as president, and since it was his bright idea to return to Mahoning Valley, he took the brunt of the criticism and a good deal of ribbing, really, for many years thereafter.

Bill was an avid skier. He pursued that activity well into his eighties. He especially liked skiing with family and friends in Stowe, Vermont, where he maintained an interest in a condominium with friends, such as, Dr. Dick Pearce, lawyer Tom Weaver, and other friends from the Lehigh Valley. I was fortunate to take my family to that condo on a number of occasions, and I enjoyed skiing the "Front Four" at Stowe, but I am sure I didn't do as well as Bill skied it. I certainly didn't do it into my eighties. I haven't yet reached that far.

Bill and Pat have been members of Lehigh Country Club since 1965; and Bill was president of the club for three years, from 1989 to 1992.

At Lehigh, Bill, as his obituary noted, "...had a love/hate relationship with golf." I recently spoke with the PGA Professional at Lehigh, Wayne Phillips, who told me that Bill had a standing lesson during golf season every Friday afternoon at 5 p.m. It has been observed, not by Wayne, that as Bill aged and

could no longer play golf, Wayne lost an annuity in lesson fees.

(Laughter.)

Bill, Dr. Dick Pearce and Attorney Tom Weaver, together with a fourth, played golf for forty-nine years every Saturday morning. Dick Pearce tells me, and I quote, "Whatever Bill learned on Friday evening from Wayne, he forgot by Saturday morning."

(Laughter.)

I didn't say that, Pat.

The Schantzes, Pearces and Weavers were also weekly Friday evening dinner partners at Lehigh. Several memorable incidents occurred following those dinners. Once Bill summoned "his" Cadillac, which he pointed out to the valet. Pat and he got into it; and when they arrived home, he was unable to open the garage door. It was soon discovered that it was not Bill's Cadillac, but another member's, Jack Guthrie's. Jack had been given Bill's Cadillac by the valet and experienced a similar problem. The two cars were the same style and the same color.

On another occasion, Bill left the club, only to realize when he was three-quarters of the way home that he had left Pat behind.



(Laughter.)

In the meantime, Pat summoned Wes to pick her up. I suspect that there was quite a conversation when Pat caught up with Bill.

I first met Bill through my association with his classmate and close friend, Bill Wickkiser. "Wick" as he was known had been a close friend of Bill's since their days in high school. They were frequent social friends. Wick and his wife Carol had many annual Christmas Eve open houses, and the Schantz family was always in attendance. I'll keep the exploits at Wick's Camp Olympic Cabin out of this.

Pat's nodding in agreement.

I recall Wick telling me that he and "Schantzie," as he called him, once had a case together on opposite sides that was being tried in front of the late, great Judge Kenneth Koch. Both Bills were fierce advocates, and as Wick recalls the story, tempers were flaring during the course of this trial. At the end of one particularly acrimonious day, Judge Koch became sufficiently concerned, that he called both Bills into his chambers. He lectured them to the effect that they had been close friends for years, and he did not want to see this case affect their long, close friendship. He ordered them to go

out and have a beer with each other and to stop the bickering.

I know that both lawyers were respectful to the Court, particularly toward Judge Koch. They did as they were told. However, I doubt that either of them needed any urging to drink a couple of beers.

I can't myself ever remember exchanging any harsh words with Bill Schantz. He was a consummate professional, and the quintessence of a gentleman. His gentlemanly qualities and his kind nature lasted for as long as he was with us.

A half dozen or so of my much older colleagues, such as, Judges Brenner, Cahn, Davison and Platt, permitted me to join them for lunch every few weeks. It is a resurrection of what used to be called "The Lawyers Table." Until he went to the Phoebe Home, Bill was almost always in attendance, even as his memory was failing him. But on all those occasions, he was unfailingly polite and personable to each of us, and with the waiters or waitresses who were serving us.

Bill was an accomplished lawyer. He was a member of the firm of Snyder, Doll and Schantz and practiced for years in that setting. Among the partners with whom he practiced were Senator Henry

Snyder and Bob Doll, who when I came to the Bar was considered a legend, for a lot of reasons.

His father, Earl, was a member of the firm. And Bill also practiced with others, such as, Vic Cavacini, who just ten days ago, celebrated his fifty-year membership of the bar; Jim "Skippy" McConnell, the late Charlie Hair, and for part of their early careers, Tony Muir, and the Honorable Tom Wallitsch.

As an aside, Tony, Tom and I were admitted here on the same day in the same ceremony, and in this courtroom. And I have always been senior to them by alphabetic order.

Vic Cavacini described Bill as an excellent trial lawyer. He was able to really connect with a jury. He was a mentor to Vic, and Vic holds Bill as one of his "favorite guys."

The firm of Snyder, Doll and Schantz was an incubator for presidents of the bar association. Senator Snyder was president in 1949; Bill's father Earl was president in 1954; Bob Doll was president in 1965; and then followed Bill in 1984.

Incidentally, M.P. Schantz, Bill's grandfather, was president in 1934. So we have had three Schantz presidents.

Time for you to step up Andrew.

(Laughter.)

Bill had a very active litigation practice representing several insurance carriers, including Nationwide, in insurance defense cases. Our friend, retired Chief Judge Edward N. Cahn, told me that when he was in practice and had a case where Bill Schantz was likely to be on the other side, he tried mightily to get it settled with the insurance adjuster before having to deal with Bill. Bill had a well-deserved reputation of treating his carrier's money as though it was his own. As was his charge, he battled hard for his clients and that included negotiating hard in settling insurance defense claims.

Bill also had a very active and successful municipal law practice representing, over the years, North Whitehall Township and its Zoning Hearing Board, Lynn Township Sewer Authority and Upper Macungie Township, where he was solicitor for many, many years and had a fine reputation. He also represented the Parkland School District.

Bill was a man of faith. He was a lifelong member of Christ Lutheran Church in Allentown, where he was a former usher, lector, pastoral assistant, and a member of church council. And he was also very

active in our community.

Bill's reputation for integrity was beyond reproach. He was simply a very well-respected, well-liked colleague. Perhaps his strongest character trait was loyalty; loyalty to his wife Pat for over fifty-nine years, to his family, both his sons, William E. Schantz, II, affectionately known as Wes, and our colleague Andrew, and their families; his friends of which I am proud to say I was one, his clients, and the profession of the law.

Although we mourn the passing of William E. Schantz, we remember him with affection, and his legacy as a friend and a very respected colleague lives on.

Thank you.

PRESIDENT JUDGE REIBMAN: Thank you, Mr. Martin.

MR. DADAY: Thank you, Mr. Martin.

I'd like at this time to introduce Kristie Beitler, who will honor Harold Funt.

MS. BEITLER: Good morning. May it please the Court.

PRESIDENT JUDGE REIBMAN: Ms. Beitler.

MS. BEITLER: I had the honor and privilege of working for and with Harold Jeffery Funt for the

last fifteen years. Harold passed away on June 27th at the age of seventy-two. Harold, or Hal as we called him at the office, attended the University of Pittsburgh, where he earned both his undergraduate and juris doctrine degrees.

After graduation, he began working on the staff of Central PA Legal Services and later served as Executive Director of Lehigh Valley Legal Services. After Hal's passing, several attorneys approached me and remarked to me, I remember when Hal hired me in Legal Services. It was so nice to hear, that besides me, Hal had given so many other attorneys the opportunity to start their legal careers.

Hal was very proud of his work at Legal Services and being known as a Legal Services pioneer. After many years in public service, Hal transitioned to private practice with his best friend Lee Rothman, who also sadly left us too early in late 2017. During Lee's lengthy illness, Hal was a devoted friend and caregiver, spending as much time as he could with Lee. He and Lee reminisced about their old law school days, their practical jokes, and those Friday afternoon shenanigans at The Downs. Hal always said he never bet on the ponies, it was always Lee.

In 1991 Hal became a sole practitioner and also

served as a Juvenile Master here in Lehigh County. He once told me that was one of the hardest jobs he ever had because the stories of the families and children weighed so heavily on his mind even after the job was over.

Hal remained a sole practitioner for a few years before forming Margolis, Duckworth & Funt, and then in the year 2000, Mosebach, Funt, Dayton & Duckworth.

Also in 2000, Hal served as the President of the Bar Association of Lehigh County. Over the years, Hal was very involved in many community service activities. Recently, he was very active in the Bethlehem Rotary, serving as treasurer in the year 2018.

Although around the beginning of 2019, Hal started commenting that he was semi-retired, whenever he took on a new case, he was really working full time. No matter how many times he would say he was going to retire, he remained dedicated to his practice and his clients until he was hospitalized in late April.

As many of you know, Hal focused primarily on family law during his forty-seven year career in civil litigation. He represented countless number of clients during their most trying and difficult and

emotional times. Hal never took that responsibility lightly and served all his clients with integrity and empathy.

The evidence of Hal's impact on his clients became clear when he started the daunting task of cleaning out his office several months ago. Tucked inside his bottom desk drawer were several thank you cards he accumulated during the years. Anybody in this room -- I see lots of them -- who practice family law, knows that it is sometimes difficult to have happy clients. While we frequently receive e-mails and letters from clients complaining about the court process, the other party or opposing counsel, letters of commendation and thank you cards are the affirmation that you're doing right by your client. I'd like to share some of the kind words written to Hal. One client wrote, "Just wanted to let you know how truly thankful I am for you for taking on my case. I was so scared, but after meeting with you and then today in court, I feel safe again. I know it's your job, but it's my life, and I appreciate your sensitivity."

Another client wrote, "I respect and admire you as an attorney, but, more importantly, as a person and friend."



And I believe this thank you card most embodied Hal's demeanor towards his clients: "Thank you so much for your expert counsel, your encouragement, your support, your honesty and your listening ear, especially when I went on and on today. I also appreciate all the hand-holding you did, as well as all those pep talks. I suddenly feel alive at the age of forty-six. In case you've had a bad day and wondered why you ever entered law, please reread this letter."

I will always remember my talks with Hal. In the beginning of my career when I would shadow Hal in court, we would discuss the case, and Hal would always make sure that I understood what transpired.

I actually remember the first case he allowed me to handle was in this courtroom in front of Judge McGinley. It was a great experience, he let me work before him.

Usually when one of us would return from court, we would debrief the case. We would talk about the meeting, laugh about a particular moment, and maybe even gossip about the other side.

Hal also liked to catch up and talk with his colleagues outside the courthouse. It wasn't uncommon if Hal got on the phone with a friend. He had his

shoes off with his feet up on the desk, and all kinds of laughter was coming from his office.

Hal was truly a gentleman, a devoted husband to his wife Carol, a proud father to Jessica, Thomas and Michael, and a doting grandfather to his four grandchildren. Carol, Jessica and Michael are in attendance today. He was proud of the accomplishments of his children. They would often see him at a lacrosse game that one of his grandchildren was playing.

His son Michael graduated from Duquesne Law School this past spring. He has joined his father's firm and is also learning about family law. And last week, I had the honor of asking this Court to enter him as a member of our bar association.

I will miss Hal, not only for his kindness, his mentorship, his love of silly things like the General Hospital soap opera, Broadway show tunes, the Pittsburgh Panthers, and Ray's Pizza, but mostly for his guidance and sage advice. Hal always told me to maintain my integrity with the Court, always be prepared, and most importantly, never send an e-mail or a letter when you're really mad.

In recent years, Hal questioned the lack of manners among lawyers. And I know if there was one

thing Hal would like all members of the legal profession to remember about him is that he treated his colleagues with respect.

I will remember all the lessons he taught me and continue to employ them in my practice of law. Hal will be so very missed. His presence was always known in our office, whether he was yelling from his own office to his longstanding paralegal to bring him a file or get somebody on the phone, or if he laughed, and he had a really hardy belly laugh, everyone in the office heard him. As you know, Hal was a tall man of large stature. You could hear him walking from all over our office. And for some reason, he always slammed shut doors. I think he wanted to make sure everyone in our office was awake. Sadly, our office is now eerily quiet. Hal was a great man, a great attorney, and it is my honor to have learned from him and work alongside him.

Thank you.

PRESIDENT JUDGE REIBMAN: Thank you, Ms. Beitler.

MR. DADAY: Thank you, Ms. Beitler.

Please welcome our next speaker, John Grayson, who will honor Robert Brown.

MR. GRAYSON: Unlike, I believe, all the

other speakers here today, I'm not an attorney so am I supposed to say "May it please the Court"?

(Laughter.)

PRESIDENT JUDGE REIBMAN: You have permission. Please continue.

MR. GRAYSON: Thank you.

I'm honored that Lupe Pearce, Bob's widow, asked me to speak today to this honorable assembly. I'm merely going to focus since I'm not an attorney on some things that you may not know about Bob that are outside of his professional life. Bob and I were classmates in high school. I've known Bob since the mid-1950's when we were both at Whitehall High School, the one in Hokendauqua at that time. Last summer, when Lupe asked me to make some comments at Bob's funeral service, I contacted several of our high school classmates who were unable to attend at that time for their input. Tim McDonald sent me this comment: Quote, "Back in the day, the Whitehall Township villages had a vibrant summer playground network. The system was run by Bob Steckel, our eventual high school basketball coach, and ironically, a part of Bob Brown's extended family. Anyway, in grammar school in the early 50's, I," meaning Tim, "played baseball for Fullerton. Fullerton played West

Catty over and over again. They had this feisty red-headed shortstop who gobbled up every ground ball left and right and invariably found himself on the base pads. He drove us nuts."

And, of course, Tim was talking about Bob Brown.

I can attest personally for Bob's athletic skills. I was taller than Bob, but he always beat me in those one-on-one basketball games in his back alley, or maybe it was home court advantage. Bob could also drive a golf ball close to 200 yards off the tee, and he could pound the ball in the softball games in our gym class. And we had Lefty Ty Stofflet fast pitching against us in gym class, in case you know who Lefty Ty Stofflet is.

During our senior year in high school, our debate coach invited me to join Bob and Al Strunk, another one of our classmates, on our high school debate team. This was sort of an odd combination because both Bob and Al eventually went on to become attorneys, and I went on to become a computer scientist and engineer. But, I learned a lot from both of them. Bob showed me how to think on your feet.

Moving on to the rest of our senior year at Whitehall, Bob was president of student council. I

have a copy of our high school year book that contains a photo showing Bob and Joe Nestor, president and secretary respectively on student council, laying the cornerstone for the new Whitehall High School on Mickley Road. We were the first class to be graduated from that high school in 1960.

At the end of our senior years, Bob and I double-dated for the senior year prom. After that, Bob started dating one of our classmates named Phyllis, and she sent me this comment for his memorial quote: "I knew him best after graduation from high school and during his college and law school days. Bobby loved politics and baseball and had strong opinions about both. He was acutely aware of the national political scene, Viet Nam War and the society changes of the 60's. He was an advocate of civil rights for the disadvantaged citizens of American society. He was kind, generous and loved his family."

So then we were off to college. Bob was off to F&M, Franklin and Marshall College, then Cornell Law. Then taught school, taught law, at the University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana. He returned to the Lehigh Valley and practiced law here for 40 years. I finished four years at Lehigh, and then off to Pittsburgh for graduate school and did not return to

the Lehigh Valley for thirty-seven years. But, I visited frequently and got together with Bob and other classmates several times a year at holiday parties and class reunions every five years.

It was at one of those reunions that I first met Lupe Pearce, who Bob had just started dating at that time. When I retired and moved back to the Lehigh Valley in 2001, I found out that my old high school buddy was not only practicing law, but was solicitor for the City of Allentown under Mayor Afflerbach. Bob and Lupe hosted an annual Christmas party, and my wife Donna and I attended most of them, which we had the privilege to meet the nice folks of the Hispanic American Organization plus former classmates and other luminaries.

Bob also roped me into helping him manage our 45th high school class reunion and then drafted me to head the organization of the 50th reunion in 2010. I made sure that Bob was a member of our committee. And it was at that time that we started to notice the early symptoms of his Parkinson's Disease.

Parkinson's is a progressive disease for which there is no cure. My first wife had a chronic form of cancer that lasted many years so I have considerable empathy and give a huge amount of credit to Bob, Lupe

and the rest of Bob's family for how graciously and courageously the way they handled that situation for nine years.

I'd like to close with just a few comments about Bob, the attorney. When I retired and moved back to this area, Bob became our family attorney. He handled several closings for us, wills and powers of attorney and several estates for which I was the executor. I recall one comment that Bob made that really stuck with me, especially since I have seen how some other attorneys handled estates. He said, I don't see my job as taking 7 percent of somebody's money. My job is just to handle the legal matters of their estate and to charge a fair fee. And he did.

Thank you.

PRESIDENT JUDGE REIBMAN: Thank you, Mr. Grayson.

MR. DADAY: Thank you, Mr. Grayson.

And now I'd like to introduce our final speaker for today, the Honorable Edward Smith who will honor Raymond DeRaymond.

JUDGE SMITH: May it please the Court.

PRESIDENT JUDGE REIBMAN: Judge Smith.

JUDGE SMITH: Family and friends of those we honor today, members of the bar and other guests here



today, Raymond J. DeRaymond, his name is unique. His birthday was 2/22/22. It was easy to remember.

It's difficult for one person to really honor Ray DeRaymond. I didn't get to know him until he was around seventy years old, and by that time, Ray DeRaymond had already been President of the Northampton County Bar Association. And prior to that, he had gone to the University of Michigan and the University of Michigan Law School. Prior to that, he was fighting with General Paton, Third Army, in the Battle of the Bulge.

He had lived many lives before he met me. He had raised nine children, all then adults. And so I met him in a kind of an unusual way. I was just finishing up with law school and I was taking the bar. And before you could start Naval Justice School you had to get your results and pass the bar. So I needed to get a very short part-time job until I could start with my Naval career.

And a family member of mine knew Raymond J. DeRaymond. I didn't know him at that time. I didn't know what a legend he was. I didn't know how powerful he was. I just knew that a family member knew him and said go knock on his door, and I had already knocked on a few other doors. So I knocked on Ray DeRaymond's

door. At that time his office was located out on the William Penn Highway, right next to the V7, in that office building that is now vacant. It was owned by Charlie Chrin, one of Ray DeRaymond's clients and one of Ray DeRaymond's friends. So I knocked on the door, went in. And he had this beautiful office, big desk and a long conference table filled with papers. And I said who I was and I just needed a job for a few months until I got the bar results. He said all right. He gives me a file that I could barely pick up, and he said, Take this down to Northampton County Courthouse to the law library. I need a brief done by Monday. And the brief was on the Lower Lehigh Sewer Authority. He represented Upper Nazareth Township. There had been a lot of controversy in the days following. So I took this big file, I went down to the law library in Northampton County, tried to figure out exactly how to research and write a brief, and did so. And then I stayed with him those few more months, and I went off to the Naval Justice School.

Well, three years later, I get a letter. It's got Raymond J. DeRaymond on the letterhead. I get the letter, and I open it up, and it's very curt. And it says, "Dear Ed, do you want to form a partnership?" Signed "Ray."

(Laughter.)

So I thought about it for a moment. Now in my brief time with him, I had learned about his clients. Those clients, not only Charlie Chrin and the Chrin Company, but Mario Andretti, Michael Andretti, the Northampton County Industrial Development Authority, Upper Nazareth Township. The list goes on and on. And these were like the premier clients, the very clients you would want to have an in with. But there was a problem. The problem was Ray DeRaymond at that time was seventy and I was thirty. His clients largely came from the Italian community and, specifically, Sicilian. He spoke fluent Italian. I didn't look Italian, I didn't speak Italian, and I was considerably younger than him, so I was concerned that his clients would not warm up to me very well. But, it turned out, through his influence, they did. And it's largely as a result of him taking me in and forming the partnership of DeRaymond & Smith, I ended up being a judge in Northampton County, because much of the respect that the bar had for him also ended up coming to me.

But a few things about Ray DeRaymond. So when I first started there, and I had just come out of

the Navy, and he had his suit on, and he always had his jacket on, he said, "This is your uniform now." And he would never be seen with his jacket off in the office.

He also loved technology, every new computer system coming out. Well, at that time, the personal computer was just coming out and, of course, he had to have one. And then as that developed, he had to keep getting it better and better, always trying to have the best technology that was possible. When I first started, typewriters were how you typed briefs. Everything was manual back at that time. And the computer was just starting out. Makes me feel old now.

But, when I say he lived many lives, I was only with Ray DeRaymond as his partner for about eleven years before I was elected Judge of Northampton County Court of Common Pleas. Well, over that eleven-year period, obviously, he was still very active, but he had gone from around seventy to around eighty, eighty-one. You would think there would be some talk of retirement. He didn't need the money, although, once he did tell me a story. He had represented Upper Nazareth Township. Then I started representing Upper

Nazareth Township. He went to a meeting, and after the meeting -- at that time, there was no Upper Nazareth Township Municipal Building. The meetings were held in the fire company, and next to the fire company was a social hall. Well, the problem with that is a lot of times people would have a few too many drinks at the bar at the social hall and then come in to the township meeting, and it would cause some problems. Well, when the meeting was over, the township supervisors and solicitors, and anybody else who wanted, would go out to the bar. And it was a private club. But, at that time it was illegal, the small games of chance. So he was doing one of those small games of chance, and he told me the story. You know, he had eight children, and he didn't have a lot of money, and it was early on in his career. A pipe burst in his house, and he had no money, no money. He didn't know what he was going to do. Already he was living paycheck to paycheck, hoping for more clients. And he was playing a small game of chance, and it hit. And it hit big. And it hit enough that it covered that plumbing bill. So he still played that small game of chance every time he was there.

He loved to golf. He was great at quoits.

There was one thing you can't talk about Ray DeRaymond without talking about his Sicilian temper. Judge Grifo used to be one of his law partners, and Judge Grifo said that we always knew what kind of case we had to send Ray DeRaymond into because he would not be bullied, and he would not be intimidated in any way. In fact, he would often react with that quick Sicilian temper. A lot of lawyers were afraid of him.

I can tell you one other quick story. We don't have a lot of time. He had a jury trial, and, unfortunately, the verdict came in favor of the defense, so he came back into my office after the jury trial and he threw the file on my desk and he said, Get me a new trial. So I looked through the transcript, and we ended up getting a new trial. So this is my first jury trial. He was going to let me try the retrial. So we went into court, and he's sitting next to me, and our client is next to us, and he was a very prominent surgeon whose hand had been injured. And I get up and start questioning the first witness, and there's this tug on my sleeve. I look at him and Ray DeRaymond is tugging on my sleeve. Well, I was young and he was very, very experienced, but there is a jury sitting there,

and it's kind of embarrassing that he's tugging on my sleeve. So he says, Ask this, ask this. So, all right, I'll ask that. So I ask that. And I was asking a few more questions, and he'd tug on my sleeve again. Finally, I said to him -- I said, Listen, no offense, Mr. DeRaymond, because he was always Mr. DeRaymond to me. He would say, "Just call me Ray," but he was always Mr. DeRaymond to me. I had the utmost respect for him. He pulled my sleeve one more time. I said, "Listen, if you want to do this questioning, you can do this questioning, but I can't have you telling me what to say. You know, it's embarrassing in front of the jury."

So, finally, he relented and he allowed me to continue with the case. And we won the case the second time around.

So the reason I'm here today is because Lehigh County is honoring him, and I appreciate that. But, you know, many of you probably never even heard of Raymond J. DeRaymond. You wouldn't know that he was a legend and a legacy in the law because he was all the way in Northampton County.

But I said he had several lives. Well, at the age of eighty, when I got elected judge, you would think maybe he would think about retiring. Not Ray

DeRaymond. He was ageless. And he fought the problems of age. He had trouble hearing, so oftentimes at an Upper Nazareth Township meeting, he wouldn't understand what was going on and he would misunderstand. But, he fought it. He fought all the problems of aging because he was largely ageless. But, you can't help the health issues that come up. But, at the age of eighty, he then merges his practice with Gross, McGinley, but, he's not retiring. He's continuing to practice.

One other little point about that, when you write a lot of wills, and you live to the age of ninety-seven, you have a lot of estate practice. A lot of estate practice.

(Laughter.)

Unfortunately, he outlived not only many of his clients and one of his sons tragically, but he also outlived many of his colleagues at the bar. It's tragic, but true. But he formed his final life in the law, which was working at Gross, McGinley. And he worked at Gross, McGinley right up to the day of his death. He actually went into the hospital to pass away at the age of ninety-seven, and he was still an intimidating presence, although I have to say, a lot of his Sicilian temper had kind of eased by then.



And he was still as charming as ever, every Valentine's Day bringing carnations for all the administrative staff, and still always willing to help out a young lawyer, including me. And I personally owe him the fact that I did become a judge in Northampton County Court of Common Pleas, and, ultimately, this. And that's why he's honored by Lehigh County lawyers as well. And I think he will be forever remembered both in Northampton County and Lehigh County for his honor and his integrity.

Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT JUDGE REIBMAN: Thank you Judge Smith.

MR. DADAY: Thank you Judge Smith.

As I turn our ceremony back over to the Court, I would like to share a quote by Samuel Butler that really represents all of our dear friends as we say good-bye today:

"I fall asleep in the full and certain hope that my slumber shall not be broken; and that, though I be all-forgetting, yet shall I not be all-forgotten, but continue that life in the thoughts and deeds of those that I have loved."  
Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT JUDGE REIBMAN: Thank you

Mr. Daday.

I would like to recognize a former member of this Court, Attorney Dan McCarthy. Judge McCarthy sat with us for a few years on an interim appointment. He was a great help to us.

I'd also like to acknowledge the fact that I did recognize Judge Carol McGinley, a former president judge of this Court. I should also tell you, and thank her publicly. She continues to serve this Court as an interim judge. She comes here two days every week, and her wisdom, her assistance is most valued and appreciated by every member of this Court.

Thank you Judge McGinley.

Each member of the Court has treasured memories of those who have been memorialized here this morning. The Court expresses our appreciation to the bar association for continuing this tradition, to Attorney Jenna Fliszar, the Chairman of the Bar Memorial Committee, for her hard work in making this ceremony a success, and to the speakers who have so beautifully memorialized our departed colleagues. They have helped to continue the great tradition, allowed us to share in the lives of our departed members and to be remembered of, or learn, some of the qualities we wish to emulate.

What I found particularly interesting is the wide diversity of experiences that those who we memorialized here this morning had: Two veterans of World War II, hiking the Appalachian Trail from Georgia to Maine, a marine geologist in Hawaii, cycling, a wrestling champion, a pioneer trailblazer lawyer in breaking gender norms, family traditions, and a legal services attorney and a law professor.

The law covers every aspect of our society, and all these varied experiences help to form each of them, as well as us, in terms of how we become better people and better lawyers. I very much appreciate those who have spoken and brought some of those things out that most of us were unaware of. We often refer to this Court as "I didn't know that part," because we oftentimes take for granted those members of our profession, that we know them only in the facet of their legal professional career. And yet the fact is they have such varied other interests and experiences which make life so interesting and help them become better lawyers.

We are grateful for the lives of those we have honored today and for their commitment for the principles of justice we all share. We thank you for joining us today in remembrance and thought.

And we especially thank the family members, friends and associates of our departed colleagues for sharing them with us. They have enriched our lives as well as yours.

The official court reporter is directed to transcribe the notes of testimony from this proceeding and to make a digital copy of it available to the Bar Association of Lehigh County. The bar association will publish this transcript on its home page <http://www.lehighbar.org>, one name. You may print or download it from that site.

Following the conclusion of this ceremony, as I understand it, there is a reception area in the hallway. We ask that you join us in that.

At this time, we adjourn the ceremony out of respect of our departed colleagues in honor of the profession of law which they served, and the honorable traditions in Lehigh County.

Mr. Hammon, you may adjourn Court.

THE COURT CRIER: This Honorable Court is now adjourned.

(Memorial service concluded.)