

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION OF THE ALLEN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

JOHN E. HOFFMAN

We are here today to pay our respects to the memory of our distinguished colleague and friend, John E. Hoffman, who passed away on Wednesday, February 12, 1997.

John was born in Fort Wayne, Indiana, on August 9, 1915. John attended high school at South Side High School in Fort Wayne. He obtained his undergraduate and law degrees from Duke University. While at Duke, John played and started on the basketball team, and was a captain his senior year, 1937-38.

John was admitted to practice law in Indiana in 1939. During his long and distinguished legal career, John became senior partner in the law firm of Hoffman, Moppert & Solomon. He served as Associate City Attorney for the Board of Works and City Utilities under Mayor Paul Burns and as City Attorney under Mayor Win Moses, Jr., as well as the attorney for the airport. After Ed Moppert retired, John opened an office with Bob Thompson, John Rogers, Dan Skekloff and Charlie McNagny.

John was known as a fiery competitor, and represented his clients to his utmost ability. Yet, he was a true gentleman and a classic professional towards the members of the Bar. John served with distinction as President of the Allen County Indiana Bar Association for 1983-84. John was an active member of the Indiana State Bar

Association, the American Bar Association, and was a member of the Indiana Supreme Court Commission on Character and Fitness.

Throughout his long career, John had an inquiring mind. This attribute not only contributed to his success in the practice of law, but also made him an interesting and informed conversationalist about a multitude of things in which he took an interest. John had an unique ability to ask questions which got to the heart of any matter, and raised important issues to be addressed. His own comments on issues were reflective of his high intelligence and his strong sense of social consciousness. He, nevertheless, communicated his views in a manner that showed his respect for, and tolerance of, the views of others. As I have previously mentioned, he was truly a gentleman. We could all be well-served by emulating that attribute of our dear departed colleague. The Bar and Bench need more gentle-persons of the likes of John Hoffman.

Outside the practice of law, John was active in both the community and professional organizations. He had been president of a number of groups, including Fort Wayne Urban League, Optimist Club, Quest Club, Fort Wayne Country Club (where he was a multiple club champion in golf), Calron Club, and Fort Wayne Estate Planning Council. He also served as a Director of the Fort Wayne Chamber of Commerce and the Fort Wayne Rescue Mission, and was also a Moderator of Plymouth Congregational Church. John also served as a Democratic Precinct Committeeman for more than ten years. John served his country in Europe as Captain in the U.S. Army in World War II and was a First Commander of the VFW Post 9500.

John was a member of the Scottish Rite, York Rite, and Shrine, and was a 33rd Degree Mason. John was an outstanding ritualist in the presentation of Scottish Rite degrees. For many years he played the role of George Washington in the 20th Degree of the Scottish Rite. His appearance in a colonial uniform as General Washington and superb recitation of his lines made the events being communicated alive and inspiring to all who had the privilege of seeing and hearing him.

John was devoted to his wife, Alice, who survives him, and to his children, son, John, of Fort Wayne, and daughters, Susan of Crown Point, Lissa Peterson of Claremont, California, and Laurie Budash of Napa, California. John is also survived by five grandchildren. John was a family man - his family meant a lot to him. To his family, we express our deep sympathy and sorrow.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Allen County Bar Association gives public expression of sorrow upon this, the occasion of the death of John E. Hoffman; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be unanimously adopted by those present at this assembly upon this occasion; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted by the Office of the Bar Association of Allen County to the members of the Hoffman family; and

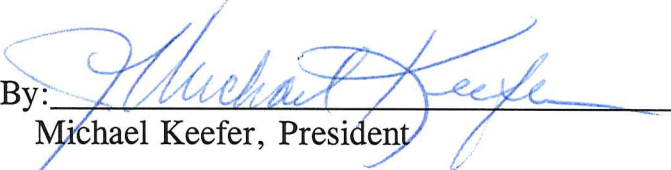
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be spread of record in the permanent records of the Courts of Allen County to evidence the respect and affection of the members of the Bar and Bench for their departed friend, John E. Hoffman.

Dated this 8th day of April, 1997.


Respectfully submitted,

THE ALLEN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

By: _____


Michael Keefer, President

By: _____


The Honorable Vern E. Sheldon
Allen Superior Court