

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION OF THE  
ALLEN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

OTTO W. KOENIG

Mr. President, members of the Allen County Bar Association and friends.

We are meeting again to honor the memory of one who has spent a long period in association with us. As a young man, he entered the Army to serve his country in the First World War from which he was honorably discharged after the conclusion of hostilities. Although he entered the profession at a later period in life than most of us, he still was active in the practice for 46 years before his retirement about three years ago.

Otto Koenig was one of the unusual men who became exposed to the law and lawyers while serving as City Clerk in the early 1920's. About this time, and possibly because of the association, he became interested in the law as a career and studied on his own. He was 39 when admitted to the Bar in 1926. Mr. Koenig had a long career in politics and in civic and public affairs, having served as a State Representative, a Deputy Prosecutor and a Prosecuting Attorney of this county. In addition to these examples of his public career he also represented the clients of Legal Aid of Fort Wayne, Inc. When he retired, the community thought so well of him and his services that he was honored at a luncheon at the Chamber of Commerce sponsored by this Association.

As a friend, having known Otto Koenig for some 40 years, I admired his devotion to the profession, to the community and to his church Trinity English Lutheran.

Those who have engaged in competition with him in the courts, on the golf course and at the billiards table can well attest to his competitive spirit, as well as his graciousness in defeat. Throughout his life he demonstrated these characteristics of determination and graciousness.

The older members now still active in the practice of law will also remember Otto's participation and activities in connection with what was then called the LLB Club. In those days when both the courts and the Bar worked at a more leisurely pace, the association through this group engaged in more social and entertaining events. Otto Koenig was one of the leaders in those activities.

And so as a career of this fine friend and gentleman is concluded, we who have had the pleasure of association with him will feel an emptiness at his departure.

Otto Koenig leaves behind him his wife Ruth, a step-son Louis H. Andrews, a brother Herbert and a sister, Mrs. Esther Mertz. To them we extend our deepest sympathy, with the knowledge that the place he occupied in their lives can never again be filled.

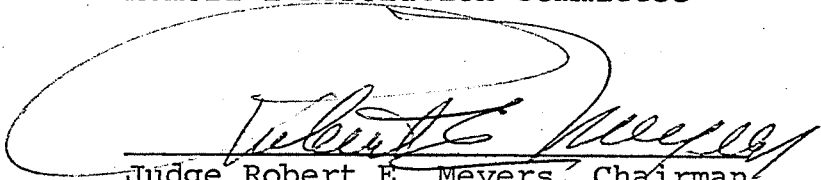
Mr. President, I move that the Allen County Bar Association give public expression of the sorrow of its members upon the death of Otto W. Koenig;

That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to his widow Ruth E. Koenig and step-son Louis H. Andrews;

That a copy of this Resolution be spread of record in the permanent records of the courts of Allen County, Indiana to evidence the respect and affection of the members of the association for its departed brother.

WITNESS our hand and seal this 9th day of June, 1975.

Respectfully submitted,  
The Allen County Bar Association  
Memorial Resolution Committee

  
Judge Robert E. Meyers, Chairman

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Hermann F. Busse  
Jesse E. Eschbach  
Robert L. Hines  
Louis L. Bloom  
Walter E. Helmke  
James R. Newkirk  
Philip R. Thieme  
Frank J. Celarek  
Alfred W. Moellering

The Allen County Indiana Bar Association, Inc.  
1012 Fort Wayne National Bank Building  
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46802  
Phone 743-8221

TO

OTTO W. KOENIG

IN DESERVED RECOGNITION

OF HIS OUTSTANDING LOYALTY

AND SERVICE TO THE BENCH,

THE BAR, AND THE PEOPLE OF

ALLEN COUNTY

FROM

THE ALLEN COUNTY INDIANA BAR ASSOCIATION

1926-1972

December 14, 1972

The Allen County Indiana Bar Association, Inc.  
1012 Fort Wayne National Bank Building  
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46802  
Phone 743-8221

TO:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Otto W. Koenig, who has announced his retirement as Legal Counsel for Legal Aid of Fort Wayne, Inc. was honored at a noon luncheon Thursday noon at the Chamber of Commerce by The Allen County Indiana Bar Association, Inc. Otto M. Bonahoom, President of the Association, presented Mr. Koenig with a plaque in recognition of his outstanding loyalty and service to the bench, the bar, and the people of Allen County.

Legal Aid of Fort Wayne, Inc. was incorporated in February 1960. Koenig, now 85 years old, has served as legal counsel for Legal Aid of Fort Wayne, Inc. since April 1, 1960. Legal Aid, a member of the United Way of Allen County, Inc., provides necessary legal services in civil cases for those without funds for hiring an attorney.

Koenig is a native of Fort Wayne and attended St. Paul Lutheran School, International Business College and also Indiana University. He served as a Corporal in World War I and was admitted to practice law in the state of Indiana in 1926. Prior to passing the bar, Koenig served as City Clerk from 1920-1925. He also served two terms as State Senator from 1927 to 1931. Koenig was Allen County Prosecuting Attorney from 1931 to 1935; and Chief Deputy under Byron Hayes, Sr. from 1935 to 1939. From 1939 until the time he joined Legal Aid, Koenig practiced law in the Gettle Building with Byron Hayes, Sr., Fred Schoppman, and Otto Grant.

Koenig is a member of the Allen County, Indiana Bar Association and the American Bar Association. He and his wife, Ruth, are members of Trinity English Lutheran Church and Koenig has served on its Board of District Deacons. Upon retiring, Mr. and Mrs. Koenig plan to vacation in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

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Also at the meeting yesterday, were officers of the Law Explorer Post which is sponsored by the Allen County Indiana Bar Association. Timothy Hake, President of the Post, spoke briefly on his trip to Washington this summer to attend the National Explorer's President's Congress.

Also, membership chairman, Ron Frybarger, presented five new members who have been accepted into membership of the Association. They are: John P. Gemmer, Robert S. Bechert, Robert J. Maple, David A. Stewart, and William L. Sweet, Jr.