

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION OF THE ALLEN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

Kenneth F. Hamilton

WHEREAS, we are here to pay our respects to the memory of our deceased colleague and friend, Kenneth F. Hamilton, who passed away on January 7, 2011 at the age of 82.

WHEREAS, Ken was born in Benton Harbor, Michigan on March 18, 1928. Ken's formative years were spent in Benton Harbor where he graduated from high school in 1946. As a precursor to Ken's adult leadership he was elected the class president his sophomore and junior years and in his senior year he was elected President of the student body. Ken attended Western Michigan University and graduated in 1951 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree majoring in biology and chemistry.

WHEREAS, following completion of his undergraduate degree Ken served as a police officer and fireman with the City of Kalamazoo, Michigan. Relocating to Fort Wayne in 1952, Ken established a successful and highly respected real estate development practice. He joined the Indiana Real Estate Association and the National Association of Real Estate Boards. He was also elected to the Fort Wayne Board of Realtors in 1956 where he served tirelessly until 1973 in various capacities including multiple stints as Director, Vice President, and in 1968 served as the Board's President.

WHEREAS, Ken seeking new challenges in his life attended the University of Notre Dame Law School and graduated in 1973. Ken was admitted to the Indiana Bar on July 11, 1974 and admitted to the Michigan Bar on December 6, 1974. Before establishing his own law firm in Waynedale, Ken's early legal career included his membership in the law firms of Hamilton and Swanson, as well as Peebles, Rogers, Hamilton & Skekloff. He was a member of the Indiana State Bar Association and the Allen County Bar Association. During his membership he served on various committees of the bar associations providing his insight, leadership, and knowledge to all other members of the legal community.

WHEREAS, in addition to being a leader in his professional endeavors Ken devoted much of his life to civic and religious organizations, as well as being a mentor to all. He was a 32nd Degree Mason, Stephen's Minister, and a member of the Trinity English Lutheran Church. Ken served as a past Director of the Allen County Committee for the Blind and as a past Director of the Allen County Heart Association. Ever the Notre Dame fan, Ken kept close tabs on his alma mater and attended many Notre Dame's football games, including the tailgating rituals known far and wide.

WHEREAS, in addition to his passion for the orderly and well planned development of Fort Wayne and his passion for the law, Ken was a dedicated family man. Ken met his late wife, Kassy Adler, while attending Western Michigan University. Ken and Kassy married in 1949 and together raised three children, Lisa, David and Jeffery. While his children were young Ken started a family tradition on Thanksgiving day that has been passed down to the next generation and continues to this day. As "Range Master" Ken, Kassy and the family would gather for outdoor shooting instruction and fun. Ken, dressed in his specially made Range Master hat and vest passed on his knowledge of gun safety and fun. The children all armed with their BB guns would listen and watch their father as he instructed them on the proper use and enjoyment of firearms. Ken's Range Master hat and vest has been passed down in the family and the shooting fun first taught long ago are being passed down to Ken's grandchildren and soon to his great grandchildren.

WHEREAS, after the death of his beloved wife Kassy, Ken again found the wonders of love. He fell in love and married Mary Ann Hunter of Fort Wayne, Indiana who survives him. Together Ken and Mary Ann traveled widely and enjoyed their roles as the mentors of their large extended family. Ken loved and embraced his stepchildren, Matt Hunter, Melissa Long, and Mark Hunter as his own.

WHEREAS, Kenneth F. Hamilton was regarded by all who knew him as an intelligent, articulate, honest, interesting, and above all a caring man. Never one to stifle a laugh or to avoid a good joke, Ken was a good friend to all and to the community at large.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Allen County Bar Association gives public expression of sorrow upon this, the occasion of the remembrance of the life of Kenneth F. Hamilton.

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be spread of record in the permanent records of the federal and state court of Allen County, Indiana, to evidence the respect and admiration of the members of the Bench and Bar for the departed friend, Kenneth F. Hamilton.

THE ALLEN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

By:

Shannon K. Reed
Shannon K. Reed, President

By:

Stanley A. Levine
The Honorable Stanley A. Levine
Allen Superior Court

