

Memorial Resolution of the Allen County Bar Association Giles Pierre



We are here to pay our respects to the memory of our deceased colleague and friend, Giles Pierre, who passed away on October 4, 2006, at the age of 98.

Born on February 5, 1908, Giles Pierre was a lifetime Fort Wayne resident and graduated from Central Catholic High School. He attended Indiana University, where he was a member of Beta Theta Pi, and graduated from the Indiana University School of Law, Bloomington, where he was a member of Phi Delta Phi Legal Fraternity. He is remembered for his diehard loyalty to IU football which prompted him to not shave until they won a football game (apparently not an easy feat even in those days!).

Giles was married to his beloved wife, Vera for 54 years. He is survived by his daughter, Suzanne (Wendell) Davenport, sons David (Billie) Pierre and Stephen Pierre, together with four grandchildren, Niccole, Stephen Joseph, Darren and Mark.

He was admitted to the Indiana Bar in 1932, commencing his law career by practicing with Sol Wood and Lake Rariden. In the 1950s he shared office space with Charlie Dare. Giles served the legal community as an associate city attorney from 1959 to 1963 under the Mike Burns Administration. In the 1970s Giles shared office space with Jerry O'Dowd and Jerry Van Orman. He worked as staff attorney for Legal Aid of Fort Wayne, Inc. for approximately 12 years, and served the Allen County Court System as Judge Pro Tem until 1987.

Giles was active within the local political system and became a member of the Democratic Party, serving as Chairman of the Election Day Organization and as precinct committeeman.

Outside of his legal and political career, Giles was a founding member of Opportunities, Inc., chartered to employ the severally handicapped and he served as a Director of that organization until 1992. Giles also served on the executive board of the Boy Scouts of America for fifteen years, and taught as a member of the faculty of International Business College. He was also involved with the United Way as a speaker and fundraiser.

He was a past member of the Knights of Columbus and the Holy Name Society, and had achieved lifetime membership with the Order of Elks.

Giles will be remembered by his family, friends and those whose lives he touched as an upbeat man who was almost always seen with a twinkle in his eye and/or a smile on his face. He was also be remembered as a loving father and husband, and a humble servant to the community in many ways.

He was known for his playful sense of humor as evidenced by a quip at the young age of 98 when, reflecting upon his age he stated that he should consider buying things on credit card.

His family recalls him personally as being very clever, witty and always having time for them, as well as his hobby of inventing. From developing the first electric foot warmer as a child (a light bulb in a can under the sheets) to a self-propelled mower and aerator (tying a rope to the mower and nailing it to a tree), all the way up to an electric trimmer (putting an electric motor on a broomstick with sheers), he was always looking for a way to make life a little bit easier.

We say farewell to our friend with a favorite saying of his which seems particularly appropriate: "Home at last, the danger passed, safe in my Father's home."

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 and death of Giles Pierre; 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 Allen County Bar Association to the members of the Pierre family; and

Be it further, resolved, that this Resolution be spread of record in the permanent records of the federal and state courts of Allen County, Indiana, to evidence the respect and admiration of the members of the Bench and Bar for their departed friend, Giles Pierre.

Dated this 18th day of May, 2007.

THE ALLEN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

By:

Cindy A. Wolfer, President

Bv:

The Honorable Stanley A. Levine Judge, Allen Superior Court