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ALLEN CIRCUIT COURT

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION OF THE
ALLEN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

JANE WOOD

Mr. President, Members of the Allen County Bar Association,
and my friends all:

This morning there is an unusual hush in our hearts as we come together to pay our respects to the memory of a person that has been known to all of us with an extremely warm affection, With her congenial attitude, her willingness to help, regardless of the task, we have learned to respect and appreciate Jane Wood.

Jane Wood retired as Deputy Clerk of the Federal Court, where she performed her duties with an extremely pleasant and friendly attitude from 1943 until her retirement in 1970.

Many of us have just learned of a few of her accomplishments; she became the first woman judge in Allen Circuit Court when she served as Judge Pro Tem. of the court on August 13, 1927. She was blessed with the distinction of having her husband, Sol Wood, as the presiding Judge of that court from 1922 until 1930.

Jane Wood began her legal career in the office of the Allen County Circuit Court in June 1919; she continued as an employee of that court until the date of her marriage to Judge Sol A. Wood in 1927. Jane Wood also had the honor, as Deputy Clerk of the Allen Circuit Court to swear in the first woman juror in the County of Allen; she also swore in the first woman voter in Allen County in 1920.

Jane Wood assumed the duties of Deputy Clerk of the Federal Court shortly after the death of her husband, Sol A. Wood, in the year 1943. During her twenty-seven years as the Deputy Clerk of the Federal Court she served under five Federal Judges, which were: Thomas Slick, Luther M. Swygert, who is now with the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals in Chicago; W. Lynn Parkinson, Robert A. Grant, who later became the Federal Judge of the South Bend Division; and our present Federal Judge, Jesse E. Eschbach. When Jane Wood assumed her duties as Deputy Clerk one Judge served all four northern districts of the court. It was not until 1962 that the Fort Wayne District Court received its own judge.

Jane Wood was born in Fort Wayne, Indiana and resided in the only house in Fort Wayne downtown section located on Douglas Street , and this has been her home during her entire life.

Jane Wood is survived by a daughter Mary Jane Wood, and to her we offer our deepest sympathy.

The members of the Allen County Bar will miss Jane Wood, we will remember being assisted by Jane Wood in her very congenial and pleasant manner; she never refused to aid a lawyer when requested to assist in the Federal Court procedure; she was always willing to aid young lawyers in their first appearances in the Federal Court.

Jane Wood had a very keen mind and a deep sense of responsibility to her superiors and to the legal profession.

The Allen County Bar Association will miss Jane Wood.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Allen County Bar Association give public expression of sorrow of its member upon the death of Jane Wood; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Jane Wood's daughter;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be spread of record in the permanent records of the courts of the County of Allen, State of Indiana, to evidence the respect and affection of the members of the Association for its departed member.

WITNESS OUR Hands and Seal this 8th day of March, 1973.

Respectfully submitted,

THE ALLEN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION by

Frank J. Celarek
Judge Frank J. Celarek, Chairman

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Judge Hermann F. Busse

Judge Louis L. Bloom

Judge Philip R. Thieme

Judge Alfred W. M oellering

Judge Robert L. Hines

Judge Robert E. Meyers

Judge Jesse E. Eschbach

William L. Burger

Fred D. Schoppman

Martin P. Torborg

Edwin R. Thomas

Judge Frank J. Celarek, Chairman