

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION OF THE
ALLEN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

WILLIAM B. MERRILL

ALLEN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
1978 OCT -5 AM 8:16
ROBERT O. THOMPSON, CLERK

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

Four things a man must learn to do
If he would keep his record true
To think without confusion clearly
To love his fellowman sincerely
To act from honest motives purely
To trust in God and Heaven securely

Anon.

William B. Merrill died September 24, 1978. He lived in and practiced law in this community since 1931. It is my belief that the short poem quoted quite accurately describes Bill Merrill. He was called upon frequently to serve as Special Judge in matters of great complexity because he was a student of the law - a legal philosopher. Yet Bill was meticulous and careful - what he did, he did correctly.

Those of us fortunate enough to have had a relationship with him know what a warm, friendly human being he was, whether at the bridge table, the golf course, games at which he was quite adept, in professional affairs, or in the many organizations to which he belonged and to which he devoted his many talents.

William B. Merrill was born January 9, 1905 at Toledo, Ohio, but was soon thereafter moved to Fort Wayne by his parents. He attended elementary school here and graduated from Central High School. He attended the University of Chicago, which awarded him a degree in Philosophy in 1926 and a J.D. degree in 1928. While in college, he joined Delta Chi Fraternity.

Bill was admitted to the practice of law in 1931 and joined J. Oscar Clem for the next few years. He then became associated with Paul Congdon until 1941, and later formed an association with John Reiber following World War II. This association lasted from 1946 until the present. During his years of practice, he served as a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney and as an Associate City Attorney. Professionally, he was a member of this Association, as well as the Indiana and the American Bar Associations.

In his social and religious life, he was a member of and attended the First Church of Christ Scientist. He was very active in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and at one time Deputy Grand Master of the State Lodge of Indiana, and for many years Treasurer of the local Lodge No. 14. He was also a life member of the Elks Lodge No. 155, Fort Wayne Optimist Club, and the Fort Wayne Historical Society.

Bill is survived by his widow Helen Cutshall Merrill to whom he was married May 13, 1933. To her, who was so close to him for such a long period of time, we extend our deepest sympathy. We realize her loss and share in it, for he was truly one who loved his fellowman and always acted from purest motives. We who knew him well share in the widow's loss.

Mr. President, I move that the Allen County Bar Association give public expression of the sorrow of its members upon the death of William B. Merrill;

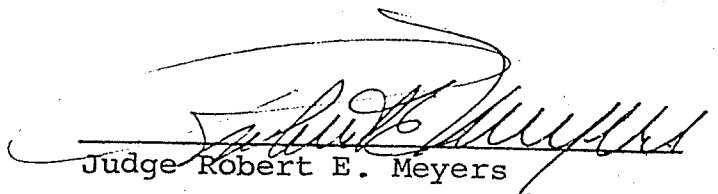
That the adoption of this Resolution be made a matter of record in the order books of the Courts of Allen County;

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William B. Merrill Memorial

That a copy of this Resolution be sent to his wife
Helen.

WITNESS our hand and seal this 27th day of September,
1978.

Respectfully submitted,
The Allen County Bar Association
Memorial Resolution Committee



Judge Robert E. Meyers

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

James W. Jackson, Chairman
Robert E. Meyers
Hermann F. Bussee
Jesse E. Eschbach
Robert L. Hines
Frank J. Celarek
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