

LARRY A. STEELE

October 18, 1946 - August 28, 1986

Larry Steele received his J.D. from Indiana University Law School, Indianapolis, on January 10, 1975, and began his practice at the Medical Protective Company that same year. He died August 28, 1986. He was with us far too short a time.

Brief though his presence was, his warmth and decency impressed everyone he met and we are all the poorer for his departure.

From Medical Protective, he went with the firm of Wyss, Mochamer, Roby, Ryan & Myers, then with Don Clifford. Later, he and Don practiced with Mark Ulmschneider, and for the last two years, he and Mark practiced together. He was an accomplished trial lawyer who won the admiration of all who saw him in court. He had a unique ability to read people and he made effective use of this in his trial work.

On July 2nd and 3rd of this year, he defended a case in Wabash. He was so sick that he was on crutches and he had to use morphine, but he insisted on handling the trial, and he obtained a defense verdict in 18 minutes.

It is typical of his self-deprecating humor that he called Mark, who had obtained a verdict in 13 minutes and began the conversation with the words, "I did not do as well as you."

The trial took its toll on him and he did not return to the office afterward. Ever since he had been diagnosed as having cancer in 1984, he had worked under the effects of radiation treatment and while recovering from various operations that were performed in an attempt to control the disease.

He worked hard and effectively through all of this and he was a living profile of courage.

Despite his accomplishments as a lawyer, we celebrate Larry more as a man. He was completely devoted to his

family; his wife, Patricia; his son, Jason, who is 16; and his daughter, Kristen, who will be 11 next month. In Larry's scheme of priorities, his family had always come first and he made it even more of a point to spend time with his family after his illness. He took pleasure in his children's accomplishments, especially in music.

As one of his former colleagues said, he was a very interesting person who lived an interesting life. He was an accomplished, and dedicated, musician. He was one of the organizers and a president of the Fort Wayne Community Band. He played several instruments, among them the violin and the fiddle. Perhaps his favorite was the saxophone and was a member of a group called the Sax Maniacs. This group performed at a moving memorial service last Sunday which was written by Larry himself.

He was an active member of the Gridiron Committee for years, contributing both songs and skits. He loved to write songs. Unfortunately, few got to enjoy his songs aside from his close friends. No one who heard them will forget the songs with which he enlivened firm Christmas parties. Larry was serious in his approach to music and took classes. He collected musical instruments.

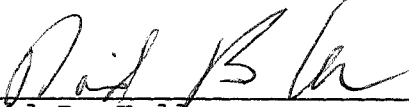
He was also an amateur artist, and an avid bicyclist.

Along with his other interests, Larry was a man of the community. He was active on the Allen County Association for the Retarded, he served as a deputy prosecutor for a time and he ran for the county council. He was an exceptional person and he will be missed.

It is moved that this memorial resolution be approved and adopted by the association, with appropriate copies to the court records, and to his family.

Respectfully submitted,

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE



David B. Keller