

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION OF THE  
ALLEN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

HERBERT WILLIS, SR.

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

Suddenly last Wednesday evening the 13th day of March, 1974  
the soul of Herbert Willis, Sr. departed mortal life to dwell in  
immortality. The lives of those who knew him well have been en-  
riched by his countless contributions, his selfless friendship and  
his dedicated spirit.

Herbert Willis, Sr. was born in the year 1904 in Waterloo,  
Indiana.

Herbert Willis, Sr. was a graduate of Wooster College, Wooster,  
Ohio, and received his Bachelor of Science degree in 1928, and later  
on attended law school at George Washington University, Washington,  
D. C., from where he graduated and received his L.L.B. degree.

Mr. Willis started his law practice in Fort Wayne, Indiana  
upon graduating from George Washington University and commenced his  
practice in the year 1933. Before Herb Willis, Sr. commenced his  
private law practice in the City of Fort Wayne, he did serve as a  
private secretary to former Congressman David Hogg of Fort Wayne,  
Indiana, from the 4th Congressional District from the year 1925 to  
1933.

Herbert Willis, Sr. also served as a probate commissioner for  
Allen County, Indiana, the Allen Superior Court No. 2 for George  
Leonard during the years 1941 to 1945.

Herb Willis, Sr. was a member of The Allen County Bar Associa-  
tion, the American Bar Association, and was a former secretary of  
The Allen County Bar Association from 1942 to 1943, and was a mem-

ber of the Board of Trustees of The Allen County Bar Association from 1952 to 1954 and again served in the same capacity from 1965 to 1967.

Herb Willis, Sr. has served in many capacities on various community and charitable projects while living in the City of Fort Wayne, Indiana. Among some of his accomplishments were that he served as chairman of the Allen County Crime Commission in the year 1935; was chairman of the Good Roads Committee of the Chamber of Commerce from 1944 to 1946; Mr. Willis also was a member of the Board of Directors of Family Service Association; Herb Willis was president of the Central Lions Club in 1938-39; he was director governor of the Lions International in 1939 and was international counselor of that organization for the same year; Herbert Willis, Sr. was a former member of the Estate Planning Council and several Masonic organizations; and a former member of the Plymouth Congregational Church.

The highest compliment to him has been the respect and affection in which his friends and many associates have held him. During many years he has responded to the words of Luke, "Unto whomever much is given, of him much shall be required." His talents were of high degree and were given not only to the practice of law, but one of the great relaxations that he enjoyed during life was sitting in the countryside or picking a beautiful scene and sitting there for several hours of just painting the scenery as he visualized it and as he would like to see this scenery appear. Herb was an outstanding painter and this attribute was not known to many members of The Allen County Bar Association, but this was his form of relaxation when the days became tough and the work was exhausting from his daily work. Herb would sit out in the open sunshine and feel re-

laxed when he had the painting brush in his hand, the canvas before him, and the ability to portray what he saw upon that canvas and there to be presented to other people for their observation.

Herb Willis, Sr. was associated with the law firm of Willis, Hobbs, Connor & Brown until the time that he moved his residence to Cape Coral, Florida. While living in Florida, Herb Willis, Sr. was a member of Cape Coral Lions Club and Faith Presbyterian Church of Cape Coral. He had several oil paintings which were exhibited in the State of Indiana as well as in the State of Florida.

Herb Willis, Sr. is survived by his wife, Ruth Willis, and a son, Herbert Willis, Jr., of Mishawaka, Indiana.

The Allen County Bar Association meets this day in sorrow and in sincere regret. Herbert Willis, Sr. was one of our honored members. He recognized life as an opportunity to give of himself, to his family, his church, his friends, his university, and to his country. He is survived by his widow, Ruth Willis, to whom we extend our sympathy and understanding. "He added to the sum of human joy, and were everyone to whom he did some loving service to bring a blossom to his grave, he would sleep tonight beneath a wilderness of flowers."

BE IT RESOLVED that The Allen County Bar Association give in public expression of sorrow of its members upon the death of Herbert Willis, Sr.; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to his family; and

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 Seals this 19th day of March, 1974.

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. Moellering  
Judge Robert L. Hines  
Judge Robert E. Meyers  
Judge Jesse E. Eschbach  
William L. Burger  
Fred D. Schoppman  
Edwin R. Thomas  
Walter E. Helmke  
James E. Newkirk  
Judge Frank J. Celarek, Chairman