

## MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

FOR

H. MARSHALL GREENE  
1959 - 1997

On Thursday, March 13, 1997, Marshall Greene died as the result of a brain tumor. At the time of his death, Marshall was only thirty seven years old. He practiced law in Nashville for only ten and a half years. Neither his young age, nor his relatively short time at the bar, however, match the extraordinary achievements of Marshall in life and the law.

Marshall grew up in Hammond, Indiana, graduated from a public high school there and then went to Wabash College, an all-male college in Crawfordsville, Indiana. Marshall then attended Vanderbilt Law School.

Throughout school Marshall was an exceptionally diligent student, which when coupled with his natural intelligence, made for a potent combination. He was organized, tenacious and dedicated to whatever task he attempted. Marshall's tenacity and dedication garnered him many awards at school, including graduating *summa cum laude* from Wabash. In addition, Marshall graduated from Vanderbilt Law School in 1984 as an Elliot Cheatham Scholar.

One of Marshall's earliest achievements was his attaining the rank of Eagle Scout as a teenager. This event was a defining moment that shaped Marshall's character and was an accomplishment of which he was quite proud. The law can claim Marshall's attention for over a decade, but the Boy Scouts were a lifelong passion for him. After achieving the highest level of success as a scout himself, Marshall refused to discard this program, which meant so much to him. He pursued this passion by becoming a camp counselor and later an adult volunteer. He received numerous scouting awards, the most notable of which were the Long Rifle, Pathfinder, St. George's and, finally, the Silver Beaver Award.

To those familiar with boy scouting, the awards bestowed upon Marshall reflect as serious a commitment to scouting as an adult can make. Marshall also completed the Wood Badge program and received his beads. In addition to being a member of the Middle Tennessee Council Executive Board, a Law Post Advisor at Vanderbilt Law School and a cub scout den leader for his own sons, Marshall's unusual contribution to scouting in this area was the development of the Youth Protection Committee. Marshall served as chairman of the committee, during a particularly active time in their history. Marshall fearlessly handled these troubling situations in a way that both protected the children in the scouting program and at the same time commanded respect for the scouting program from both

within and outside its ranks of adult volunteers. More than one adult and former boy scout was enticed back into the program as an adult by Marshall's unabashed enthusiasm for the Boy Scouts and the difference the program can make in the lives of young men.

Marshall was also a lifelong Christian. This, too, was a defining characteristic of Marshall's personality. Those who knew him even slightly would learn without any particular probing that he was proud to be a member of the Roman Catholic Church. He and his wife, Cathy (who converted to Catholicism when they were married), were members of the St. Ignatius Catholic Church in Antioch, Tennessee. It is impossible to speak to anyone in that congregation who did not know, respect and draw strength from Marshall and Cathy. Marshall's faith permeated every action he took and every decision he made. For someone so devoutly committed to his faith, Marshall also demonstrated tolerance of divergent views and philosophies. Marshall did not believe or desire that everyone agree with his own personal Roman Catholic beliefs, but he strongly believed that everyone should have a religious faith and be true to that faith. His personal faith was unshaken through his ordeal with cancer, which lasted nearly two years.

The Nashville Bar was fortunate to have Marshall Greene practice law here. He devoted the same energies and commitment to the law that he did to other areas of his life. Both fellow lawyers and clients benefitted greatly. Marshall began practice at O'Hare, Sherrard & Roe, directly after graduating from Vanderbilt Law School. At that young firm, Marshall became the first lawyer to rise to partnership right out of law school. His practice focused primarily in the real estate and lending areas, but he was often able to assist his clients in many other areas as well. Everyone who dealt with Marshall will remember him as being one of the most creative problem-solvers in Nashville. He was able to work out problems, and settle many matters that in the care of anyone else would certainly have been decided only in the courthouse.

On May 1, 1993, Marshall left Sherrard & Roe to form his own firm, known as Greene & Greene. His popularity with other lawyers and clients caused his practice to blossom and it was clear that Marshall was destined to become one of the preeminent lawyers in Nashville. Sadly, on May 1, 1995, the second anniversary of the formation of his own firm, the first symptoms of Marshall's illness struck and forced him into the hospital. He practiced little after that, but continued to live much until his death earlier this year.

No testament to Marshall would be complete without mentioning his keen sense of humor and sharp wit. Marshall often broke the tension in many situations with levity and good natured humor. Marshall was quick to see the lighter side of a situation and to share his insight. He was always quick with a smile and a good joke and seemed to delight in the irreverent.

Marshall recognized no boundaries in life. His religious faith, his commitment to the Boy Scouts and his humor were permanent fixtures of his conversations with clients and other lawyers. Marshall had no hesitation in giving non-legal advice to clients whom he believed needed such advice. In addition to his business cards, Marshall carried a supply of inspirational cards which he passed out as circumstances dictated. His favorite such card reads as follows:

**MY LORD GOD**

*I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please You does, in fact, please You. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this You will lead me by the right road though I may know nothing about it. Therefore will I trust You always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for You are ever with me, and You will never leave me to face my perils alone.*

THOMAS MERTON

Spiritual Arts

None were offended by this practice. Marshall sincerely wanted to help those he met and they recognized and received his advice as that of a true friend.

Marshall belied all of the contemporary criticisms of lawyers. His clients never joked about their lawyer being a necessary evil. They were truly appreciative that he devoted his significant abilities and tremendous energies to helping them with their business ventures, or their problems. Every lawyer in Nashville has benefitted from the good will generated by Marshall Greene among the community.

Marshall was at home with extraordinarily diverse groups. He practiced commercial law in downtown Nashville. He dealt with business and civic leaders of all generations in his work with the Boy Scouts. He lived in Lavergne and participated actively in his childrens' school. He drove the homeless to his church on weekends during the winter months for the Room at the Inn, purchasing a fifteen passenger van for the purpose and participating to such an extent that he could greet the "regulars" on the street by name.

It is an amazing testimonial to Marshall that by the age of thirty seven, he had risen to preeminence in every group to which he belonged, the Boy Scouts, his church and the Nashville Bar.

Marshall will be remembered, with great affection and the respect of those who knew him.

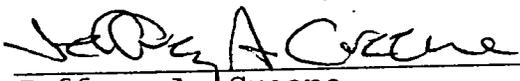
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Nashville Bar Association that in the life and record of H. Marshall Greene, as a member of the Nashville Bar, we and the city of Nashville generally have been honored and blessed, and in his passing we have sustained a greivous, personal loss; that this Memorial Resolution be placed in the permanent records of the Association and entered on the "In Memoriam" minute book of the Chancery Court of Davidson County; and that copies hereof be furnished to the members of Mr. Greene's family, Mrs. Cathy Jo Greene, his mother, Mrs. Sarah Greene, his brothers and sister, John Greene, Mike Greene, Cathy Greene, his children, Paige Greene, Bryce Greene, Nathaniel Greene, Gabriel Greene, Marcie Greene, Patrick Greene, and his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Foxworthy.

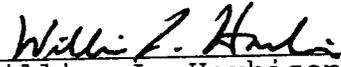
This \_\_\_\_ day of November, 1997.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chancellor

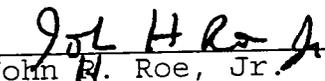
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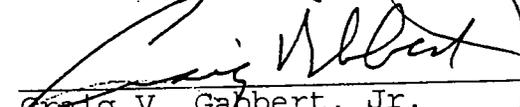
H. MARSHALL GREENE MEMORIAL RESOLUTION COMMITTEE:

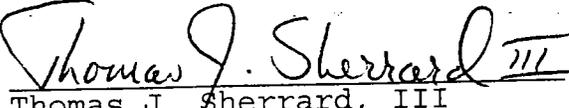
  
Jeffrey A. Greene

  
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