

JOHN ISAAC HARRIS, SR.

RESOLUTION

On Tuesday, December 19, 1967, John Isaac Harris, Sr. died at the age of 55 years. It was while on his way to work that he became ill and at his request his son carried him to the Nashville General Hospital where he suddenly passed away.

John Isaac Harris, Sr. was born April 28, 1912 in Davidson County where he remained a life long citizen. His father was Arthur S. Harris, a local mill worker, and his mother was Virginia Neely Harris. He attended Warner School and Seifried School and Cumberland High School, public schools of Davidson County. He studied law at the YMCA Night Law School and obtained his law degree from Andrew Jackson University. He was admitted to the Bar and licensed to practice in all the Tennessee Courts, the 7th day of December, 1940. He immediately commenced the practice of law in Nashville, Tennessee with offices located in the Stahlman Building where they remained until his sudden departure. In his early years of law practice he was associated with the late George Milwee, the late Andrew Carpenter, and the present Judge of Part V of the General Sessions Court of Davidson County, Tennessee, Daniel Boone. At the time of his death he was associated in the practice of law with Charles E. Brown and his son, John I. Harris, Jr.

On the 8th day of January, 1933 he married the former Miss Elizabeth Edna Abernathy, also a life long resident of Davidson County, and to this union there was born one son, John Isaac Harris, Jr., who survives. He also left surviving him two grandchildren, John I. Harris, III and Robert Earl Harris, and four brothers and three sisters.

John I. Harris, Sr. was a member of the Nashville and Tennessee Bar Associations. He was a 32d Degree Mason and a member of the Al Menah Shrine Temple, and a member of the Fatherland Street Baptist Church and a member of M. S. Ross' McDill Bible Class of the Woodland Street Presbyterian Church.

In a short space of time it is impossible to mention many of the important highlights in the life of John I. Harris, Sr. but we would be derelict in our duty if we did not bring to your attention the many hours he gave without compensation in the numerous Courts in Davidson County sitting as Special Judge to the extent that his fellow members of the Bar gave him the nickname of Judge Harris. John I. Harris, Sr. was a self made man. When his father passed away in November of 1930 it fell upon him the obligation of raising and educating seven brothers and sisters which he did unselfishly and yet attained a success in all his endeavors unmatched by many of his constituents. As has been said "True greatness does not always reside in marble palaces, nor in the lives of men and women whose great deeds are recorded upon the pages of history. It is found in many far away places, in the homes and hearts of millions of humble people."

Therefore, with sadness in our hearts but rejoicing in the knowledge of the hereafter, and with gratitude for the life that has ended, we pause with the members of his family and fellow lawyers, with sober reflection in memory of our friend, John I. Harris, Sr.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Nashville Bar Association that these words and thoughts shall memorialize the passing of John I. Harris, Sr. in token of which this Resolution shall be spread upon the permanent records of the Association and copies thereof shall be sent to the members of his bereaved family.

Your Committee considers it an honor to have a part in this occasion in memory of our beloved and departed friend, John I. Harris, Sr.

COMMITTEE:

M. S. Ross

Paul Green

Morris Levine

J. F. Doty

Charles F. Brown
Chairman