

R E S O L U T I O N

Ernest Crawford Matthews, III was the son of Ernest C. Matthews, Jr. and Ozella Young Matthews and was born in Nashville, Tennessee, on November 29, 1927. He attended public schools in Nashville and the Castle Heights Military Academy in Lebanon, Tennessee, during his grade school years and later attended Montgomery Bell Academy in Nashville where he won scholastic and public speaking honors and participated in athletics as a member of the MBA baseball team.

Ernest enrolled in Vanderbilt University as a freshman in 1945, following graduation from high school. He was a student in the College of Arts and Science but had to take leave from his college education after several months to perform his military service in the U. S. Army. He served in the Army in the mid-1940's, with duty in this country and in Japan. Following his discharge from the Army as a sergeant with a distinguished military record, he completed his academic education at Vanderbilt University in 1950 at which time he was awarded the Bachelor of Arts Degree. During his under-graduate days at Vanderbilt, Ernest continued to attain scholastic recognition and was awarded membership in Phi Beta Kappa Honorary scholastic fraternity. He attended the School of Law at Vanderbilt and was awarded the LLB Degree, later substituted by the Dr. of Jurisprudence Degree, in 1952. In the law school Ernest served as a member of the Vanderbilt Law Review staff and was elected to membership in the Order of the Coif in recognition of his scholastic achievements. He was a member of Sigma Chi and Phi Delta Phi legal fraternity during his brilliant college career.

He began the practice of law in 1952 after his admission to the Bar of Tennessee and became associated with the Nashville law firm of Tyne, Sugg and West. In the late 1950's he became associated in the practice of law with Mr. Tom Ed Murray with whom he practiced until Mr. Murray's retirement in 1968. At the time of his death on August 15, 1973, Ernest was associated in the practice of law with David G. Gray and Tom H. Proctor, Jr.

Ernest was a very active member of local, state and national bar associations and among other professional honors, he was president of the Young Lawyers Section of the Tennessee Bar Association, served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Nashville Bar Association from 1969 to 1972 and served on various Bar committees throughout his legal career.

Ernest possessed a brilliant mind and gifted intellect and was most dedicated to the practice of his profession and the upholding of his own personal and professional high ideals. His standard always was perfection and he worked to achieve it at all times. His practice at the outset was of a general type but in later years he became a specialist in the areas of corporation law, taxation, estate planning and the administration of estates. He was a Fellow in the American College of Probate Counsel and also had lectured in law at the University of Tennessee.

Ernest was perhaps the most industrious and hard working individual I have ever had the privilege of knowing. I have often said to my friends and associates that Ernest Matthews could derive as much from a given work day as any man I have ever known. He had the rare ability to organize his work in a most orderly fashion and proceed to a conclusion without any doubt about his course of action.

He was most active in civic, religious and fraternal affairs. In 1969 he was awarded the Thirty-Third Degree in Scottish Rite Masonry and maintained over the years an active role in masonic affairs. He was certainly one of the most capable

ritualists in Tennessee. Ernest was a member of the Immanuel Baptist Church and was most active in its affairs and in his attendance.

He is survived by his lovely wife, the former JoAnn Hammack, four fine sons, Ernest, IV, David, Craig, and Charles, and his mother. In conclusion, it must be said that of the countless superlatives which I would attach to the life of Ernest Matthews perhaps the most fitting remark that I or anyone else could make about him is simply that those who passed his way, and especially those who were close to him, are better persons for having known him. He was truly a fine son, husband, father, friend, lawyer and citizen.

Respectfully submitted,

TOM H. PROCTOR, JR.

November 1, 1973

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