

JUDGE EDWARD GALE ROBINSON1932 - 1995

EDWARD GALE ROBINSON, born May 1, 1932, in the Old Hickory - Madison community, was the son of Garner and Estelle Robinson. Garner Robinson, his father, was active in county politics and for many years, served as Sheriff of Davidson County before the consolidation of the city and county governments.

Gale Robinson attended high school at the old Duncan Prep School which was located on the property now occupied by the Vanderbilt Memorial Gymnasium.

After graduating from high school, Gale served two years in the U.S. Navy. He attended George Peabody College, from which he obtained his undergraduate degree, and subsequently obtained his law degree from Cumberland University at Lebanon.

Having been born into a politically active family, it was only natural that the lure of the political arena was appealing to Gale. At the age of twenty-one, he ran for a seat in the Tennessee General Assembly and was elected to the House of Representatives as the youngest member of that branch of government.

After obtaining his law license, he began the practice of law in the offices of the late Jack Norman, Sr., at 213 Third Avenue, North. Simultaneously, he became an Assistant District Attorney, as in those days, Assistant District Attorneys could also maintain a private civil practice. This arrangement

afforded Gale an opportunity to gain valuable experience and expertise as a trial litigator in both civil and criminal cases, and proved to be a tremendous asset toward his later career as a judge.

Although he enjoyed an active and productive law practice, Gale never lost his nose for politics and the opportunity to participate in community affairs and fraternal organization activities. He was a champion of the Old Hickory - Madison community, whose citizens always remained loyal to the Robinson family. He was a stalwart in the Al Menah Shrine organization and was given the unique honor of being elected Potentate of that organization on two separate occasions. He was extremely active in the philanthropic efforts toward the support of the Crippled Children's Hospitals, and until his death, was serving as Treasurer of Al Menah Temple.

Gale Robinson made an unsuccessful bid for the office of District Attorney in 1966, but even in defeat, he remained undaunted in his determination to render public service to the Nashville community. In 1968, the opportunity for which he had surely been destined was presented to Gale. Then Governor Buford Ellington appointed him as a Judge of the General Sessions Court of Davidson County. Gale was tailor-made for the job. He had vast trial experience as a lawyer and Assistant District Attorney. He had developed an exuberant and extroverted personality from his political background; he understood the shortcomings found in most human beings and that no person is perfect; and, most importantly, he had compassion for the well

being of his fellow citizens. Gale served as General Sessions Judge from 1968 until his retirement in 1986, or for eighteen years. He was truly the people's judge and his court was the people's court. He was the epitome of what a judge should be, in that he had an inborn ability to treat people right. No human being, regardless of position or status, was ever mistreated by Judge Gale Robinson. His judicial excellence was recognized by his peers, in that he served two terms on the Board of the American Judges Association, two terms as President of the Tennessee General Sessions Judges Association, and two terms as Presiding General Sessions Judge of Davidson County.

Following his retirement from the General Sessions Bench, Judge Robinson became active in his family business, the Phillips-Robinson Funeral Home, and was active at the business until his untimely death on March 28, 1995.

Gale Robinson is survived by his wife, Lana Robinson, who for many years shared with him his dreams and aspirations. He is also survived by a daughter, Laura Robinson Ramsey; three sons, Judge Gale B. Robinson, Edwin Garner Robinson, and Norman Wade Robinson; and two sisters, Maude Robinson Hopkins and Judge Muriel Robinson. He was preceded in death by his son, Charles Edward Robinson.

Gale Robinson, in his life, achieved success in many ways. He was a husband, a father, a fine lawyer, an excellent and revered jurist, a prominent businessman, a public servant, and a person who cared about his fellow man. His greatest legacy is the thousands of friends that he made during his lifetime.

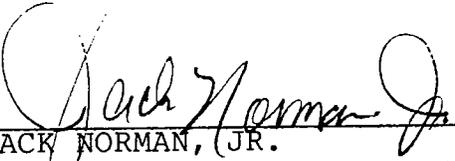
This was aptly demonstrated by the huge crowd that attended his funeral to pay their last respects to a friend. Gale would have had it no other way.

NOW, BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED at this official session of the Davidson County Chancery Court held at 11:00 A.M. on November 16, 1995:

(1) That the professional colleagues of Gale Robinson do, by these means, express our great sense of loss by his death.

(2) That we further express our appreciation for having known him; for the credit he brought to our profession; for his contribution to the body of our law; and the high standards he espoused; for his contributions to our state and nation; and for his friendship. A stalwart Tennessee lawyer and judge has answered his last call of the docket.

(3) BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That a copy of this resolution be entered upon the permanent Memorial Roll of this Association; and that a copy be forwarded to his wife, children, and two sisters.

  
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JACK NORMAN, JR.  
MEMORIAL RESOLUTION COMMITTEE  
NASHVILLE BAR ASSOCIATION  
NOVEMBER 16, 1995

EDWARD GALE ROBINSON was born May 1, 1932. Following high school, he served 2 years in the U.S. Navy. He then obtained his undergraduate degree from Peabody College and his law degree from Cumberland University. At the age of 21, Gale was the youngest member to be elected to the House of Representatives. Gale began his law practice in the office of the late Jack Norman, Sr., and simultaneously, became an Assistant District Attorney, serving in that capacity for ten years.

In 1968, Governor Buford Ellington appointed Gale as Judge of the General Sessions Court of Davidson County. From 1968 until 1986, he was truly the people's judge and his court was the people's court. He was the epitome of what a judge should be, in that he had an inborn ability to treat people right. No one was ever mistreated by Judge Gale Robinson. His judicial excellence was recognized by his peers, in that he served two terms on the Board of the American Judges Assoc., two terms as President of the Tennessee General Sessions Judges Assoc., and two terms as Presiding General Sessions Judge of Davidson Co. Following his retirement from the Bench, Judge Robinson remained active in his family business, Phillips-Robinson Funeral Home, until his death on March 28, 1995. Gale Robinson is survived by his wife, Lana, a daughter, Laura Robinson Ramsey; three sons, Judge Gale B. Robinson, Edwin Garner Robinson, and Norman Wade Robinson; and two sisters, Maude Robinson Hopkins and Judge Muriel Robinson. He was preceded in death by his son, Charles Edward Robinson.

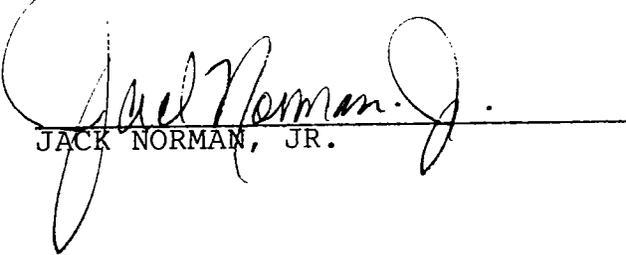
BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, at this Official Session of the Chancery Court of Davidson County, held at 11:00 A.M. on November 16, 1995, that:

(1) We, his associates and colleagues, do by these means express our great sense of loss by his death.

(2) That we further express our appreciation for having known him and for the honor that he brought to the legal and judicial profession.

(3) BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be entered upon the Minutes and Memorial Roll of this association; and that a copy be forwarded to his wife, children and sisters.

THIS NOVEMBER 16, 1995  
INTRODUCED BY:  
JACK NORMAN, JR., CHAIRMAN  
EDWARD GALE ROBINSON RESOLUTION  
COMMITTEE

  
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JACK NORMAN, JR.