

Owing to his retirement some fifteen years ago, Mr. Smith was not widely known among the newer members of the Bar, but his admirers and friends among the older members are many. In his passing the Bar of Nashville has lost one of its most distinguished and scholarly members; the members of your committee, along with those others who knew him well, have lost a true and devoted friend.

BE IT RESOLVED therefore, that the Nashville Bar Association is deeply grieved at the death of its late brother, E. J. SMITH, and extends its sympathy to THE MEMBERS of his family in their loss, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of these Resolutions be delivered to the members of the family and that another copy be filed in the permanent records of the Association.

Wm. E. Steger,  
Tom Ed Murray,  
James B. Newman,  
Norman Farrell,  
COMMITTEE.

February 21, 1950.

\*\*\*\*\*

WILLIAM HUME:

(1888 - 1950)

WILLIAM HUME was born in Nashville on February 1, 1888, and his distinguished career was ended by his death which occurred suddenly on the evening of January 10, 1950, as the result of a heart attack.

Mr. Hume attended grade school at the old Warner School in East Nashville and made his preparation for college at the famous Branham & Hughes School in **Spring Hill**, Tennessee. Mr. Branham was Mr. Hume's uncle by marriage.

Entering Vanderbilt University in 1905 Mr. Hume attained the A. B. degree in 1909 and the LL.B degree in 1910. He began the practice of law in the City of Nashville immediately upon his graduation from law school, and continued in such practice in this community, without interruption, until his death.

On April 23, 1913, Mr. Hume married Sallie Phillips McKay, a member of an old and prominent family in Nashville, who survived him. He had no children.

Mr. Hume descended from a long line of ancestors whose lives were set apart by outstanding public service. His paternal great-grandfather, for whom he was named, came to Nashville from Scotland in 1801 and was the first pastor of the First Presbyterian Church. His maternal grandfather was likewise a prominent Presbyterian minister who served as pastor of several churches in this community. His paternal grandfather was a prominent and successful merchant engaging in the wholesale grocery business in Nashville for many years. His father was for many years an executive in the telephone business in Nashville and in the South, having been President of the original Cumberland Telephone Company and thereafter occupying many high offices in the successor corporations. His father also served for many years as Chairman and member of the City Board of Education of Nashville and in many other prominent civic positions.

An uncle, Dr. Alfred Hume, has long been a distinguished educator and at the present time is Chancellor Emeritus of the University of Mississippi at Oxford, Mississippi.

With this family background Mr. Hume, from the beginning of his career, seemed to be

impelled by the nobility of his nature to exemplify the lives of his forefathers and devote his many talents to the unselfish service of his community. Therefore, despite the exacting labor required for attention to his large and lucrative practice as one of the leading members of the Nashville Bar, early in life he began to devote an ever-increasing portion of his time in an effort to be of service to his community.

The results of this consuming ambition were amazing, Even a partial list of the many important capacities in which he was serving at the time of his death will establish a record for public service which has few, if any, equals. He was Chairman of the City Board of Education, a position he had held for many years. He was Chairman of the City Auditorium Commission. He was a member of the Board of Park Commissioners of Nashville. He was a trustee and member of the Executive Committee of George Peabody College for Teachers; a trustee and member of the Executive Committee of Fisk University; a member of the Board of Directors of Southwestern University at Memphis; a member of the Board of Directors and Secretary of Ward-Belmont College; a member of the Joint University Libraries Board of Vanderbilt University, Peabody College, and Scarritt College; a member of the Executive Committee of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the United States; Vice-President of the Board of Trustees of Monroe Harding Children's Home; a member of the Committee on Educational Institutions of the Presbyterian Synod of Tennessee; a member of the Board of Governors of the Nashville Chamber of Commerce; a member of the Board of Commissioners of the Nashville Public Library; a member of the Commission of the Juvenile Aid Bureau; a member of the Nashville Chapter of American Red Cross; a member of the Travelers Aid of Nashville; a member of the Nashville Anti-tuberculosis Association; a member of Youth, Incorporated of Nashville; an elder of Westminster Presbyterian Church; an enthusiastic member of the Bar Associations of Tennessee and Nashville.

All of the service and untiring effort implied by this impressive list and required by many other services of a public nature were performed by Mr. Hume without any monetary compensation, simply because of his innate feeling that man's first duty and obligation is to serve his fellowman and share with his community the talents which had been entrusted to his keeping by the Master of us all.

Few men would have undertaken the stupendous tasks which Mr. Hume seemed to perform with a mental calm and poise seldom equaled in this life.

When we consider what we know to have been his ambition, we can truthfully assert that he attained his aims in life to an unusually high degree. We, his fellow-lawyers, join with the entire community in deploring the comparatively early termination of his brilliant efforts, but at the same time we join with his host of friends in heartfelt thanks for his well-spent life. He was an astute and accomplished lawyer, an able advocate, an excellent counsellor, and above all else a cultured gentleman and a most valuable citizen of this community.

Mr. Hume's funeral was conducted in the Westminster Presbyterian Church on January 12, 1950, and his remains were interred in Mount Olivet Cemetery. He sleeps with his forefathers, having completely measured up to the enviable family traditions.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Nashville Bar Association that this record of appreciation of the exemplary life, character and service of William Hume be made a part of the records of this association, that in his passing the Nashville Bar has sustained an irreparable loss, and that a copy of this tribute and resolution be made available to his family.

E. J. Walsh,                      Seth M. Walker,  
J. O. Bass                         S. L. Felts,  
Charles L. Cornelius.

\*\*\*\*\*