

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE NASHVILLE BAR ASSOCIATION AT A

MEMORIAL SERVICE HELD IN MEMORY OF

JOHN C. ASKEW, Jr.

Nashville, Tennessee,
January 29, 1959.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE NASHVILLE BAR ASSOCIATION:

Your Committee, appointed to draft appropriate resolutions commemorating the life of the late John C. Askew, Jr., respectfully submits the following:

John C. Askew, Jr., the son of John C. Askew, Sr. and Ladye Swope Askew, was born at Carthage, Tennessee, December 18, 1907, but came with his parents to Nashville when he was five years of age. "Johnny" as he was affectionately known to his thousands of friends came from one of Tennessee's pioneer families, rich in the heritage of the South and proud in the tradition of Southern aristocracy.

He graduated from Peabody Demonstration School and from Vanderbilt University. In the class of 1931 he was named Bachelor of Ugliness, Vanderbilt's highest honor for a male student.

He later graduated from Cumberland University Law School in Lebanon, Tennessee. In 1932 and 1933 he taught at Tarbox School and began his active law practice in Nashville in 1933. While at Vanderbilt University he was a member of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity. "Johnny's" college activities included three years of football and baseball and Athletic Director and Coach at Cumberland University in 1932. He once served as Chairman of the Board of Arbitration of the Larry Gilbert, Jr. baseball team.

Among those of us who have been ardent football followers he is probably best remembered for his sensational performance in scoring four touchdowns in 1932 against a favored Minnesota team in one of the greatest upsets ever marked up by the Commodores. The final score was 33 to 7. Considered an outstanding all around athlete, he won three varsity letters in football and baseball and was Captain of the baseball team one year.

Always an ardent horseman, he served two terms as President of the Walking Horse Association and was a prominent force behind the filming of the movie "Free and Easy" which was distributed throughout the world and created a wide interest in Tennessee Walking horses among breeders and pleasure riders.

On February 6, 1932, he was married to Miss Doris Wilson of Salem, Illinois. This marriage brought him a loyal, faithful and devoted companion whose loving kindness and understanding was inspirational in the years that followed. To this marriage two children were born, Jean Askew Stevenson of Atlanta, Georgia, and Doris Anne Askew who is now a young lady of eleven years of age.

At a very early age he gave evidence of the sparkling personality that was later in maturity so much in evidence. When he began the practice of law he soon displayed to an extraordinary degree the ability to analyze all of the pertinent facts of a case, to pin point the determinative questions involved and to make an extensive research of the law applicable to these questions, and then to present the entire matter to the Court in such a way as to be convincing. Even though a keen and aggressive lawyer, he never at any time allowed his enthusiasm to in any way sway his always acute sense of justice nor did he tolerate any chicanery or sharp practice in any of his cases. He was considered by his opponents as an able, formidable adversary but one with whom it was a pleasure to try his cases because of his sterling honesty and sense of fairness.

He was a Shriner, a deacon of the Woodmont Christian Church where he was President of the Men's Club and he was a member of the Nashville, Tennessee, and American Bar Associations.

"Johnny" was a veteran of twenty-five years in law practice, during which time he had served as an Assistant District Attorney General under former District Attorney General J. Carlton Loser. During the eight years he served as assistant prosecutor, he compiled an enviable record, being successful in more than ninety percent of the cases he prosecuted.

During his long legal career he sat as special judge in the Courts of both Judge Chester K. Hart and Judge Charles Gilbert. He once said he felt he had been schooled in the principles and concepts which have characterized and undergirded the records written by the two former jurists. This led to his being qualified as a democratic nominee as Judge of Part One of the Criminal Court for Davidson County, Tennessee, and although he was unopposed in the April Democratic Primary, yet he received nearly 23,000 complimentary votes which clearly demonstrated his popularity in the community in which he had spent most of his life.

He also served on the Davidson County Board of Election Commissioners and in 1951 was named Tennessee Chairman of the Cordell Hull Foundation.

"Johnny's" life was one of service to his fellowmen, to his family, his church, his community, his state, and a distinct honor to his profession and the cause of justice;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the members of the Nashville Bar Association that in the life and memory of John C. Askew, Jr., our fellow lawyer and co-laborer in all things for the advancement of justice, we have been honored and blessed by his presence among us and have suffered a distinct loss which we sincerely deplore.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That we tender to his widow, his daughters, his father and mother and other members of his family our heartfelt sympathy and condolence.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be preserved on the permanent records of this Association and entered in the "In Memoriam" Minute Book of the Chancery Court of Davidson County, Tennessee, and that copies of this memorial be furnished the members of his family.

Respectfully submitted, this January 28, 1959.

J. Victor Barr, Jr.
Charles Gilbert,
Dennis W. Summers,
Robert Jennings.

RESOLUTIONS ON DEATH OF C. VERNON HINES:

C. VERNON HINES, the son of the late John Hinton Hines, and Mrs. Nora Gordon Hines, who survives, was born in Davidson County, Tennessee, March 10, 1900; he died suddenly on August 1, 1958, just a few minutes prior to his appearance upon a television program. He graduated from Central High School, attending George Peabody College, and after his graduation from the Y. M. C. A. Law School and his admission to the Bar on October 24, 1922, became an active practitioner at the Nashville Bar until his death.

He married Miss Laurabell Carter of Sparta, Tennessee, thirty years ago; born of this union were the following children:

Ensign Louis Carter Hines, Robin Hinton Hines, and Miss Ruth Hines.

Surviving him are his wife, children, his mother, a brother, John Harvey Hines, and four sisters, Mrs. John S. Duval, Sr., Mrs. George M. Copeland, Mrs. C. Beverly Briley and Mrs. W. W. Horn.