

## MEMORIAL RESOLUTION FOR JOHN R. CHEADLE, SR.

1930 - 1997

John Roaten Cheadle, Sr. was born on September 25, 1930, in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He died in Nashville on March 10, 1997. John married Evalina DeBow Casey on December 20, 1952. They were married 44 years and have four children: John R. Cheadle, Jr., Evalina C. Cheadle, Marian Cheadle Fordyce and Dudley A. Cheadle. John and Evalina have six grandchildren.

John attended Woodrow Wilson High School in Dallas, Texas. He was a Golden Gloves boxing champion and had great success in regional boxing tournaments. He was battalion commander of his high school R.O.T.C., and he was an outstanding swimmer, diver, and football player. He was offered academic scholarships to Columbia University and to Oklahoma University. John was offered several football scholarships, one of which was to Vanderbilt, where he was recruited by Red Sanders. John's father told him he should not leave Texas to come to Tennessee to be a "lilly-livered southern gentleman". John ignored his father's advice, and after high school, came to Nashville and to Vanderbilt University on a football scholarship. During his college years he was a "60-minute" man on the Vanderbilt football team, where he was a starter on both offense and defense. He played offensive guard and defensive tackle. He was a co-captain with the late Don Wade of the 1952 Vanderbilt football team. John received a Bachelor's Degree in Engineering from Vanderbilt University School of Engineering in 1953.

Upon graduation from Vanderbilt, John enlisted in the U. S. Army Corp of Engineers. In addition to his engineering duties of building bridges for the Army, John was a player and coach for the U. S. Army championship football team.

After his military service, John practiced engineering for a period of time before returning to Vanderbilt for his law degree, which he received in 1960. Chancellor Ned Lentz and Morris Levine were strong influences on John's early practice. John maintained a law partnership with Bob Murphy and Ralph Gordon during the 1960's. Later, he practiced for a number of years with Fred Elledge, Jr., in the law firm of Elledge and Cheadle, with his son, John Cheadle, Jr., joining in 1978. After Fred died, John continued to practice law with his son under the name of Cheadle and Cheadle. They were later joined by John's two lawyer-daughters, Evalina Cheadle and Marian Cheadle Fordyce. The fourth Cheadle offspring, Dudley A. Cheadle, is currently enrolled in law school.

John was a member of the Nashville Bar Association, the Tennessee Bar Association and the American Bar Association. During his practice, John was a member from 1965 to 1972 of the TVA Land Condemnation Commission, at one point serving as Chairman. John also acted as a Bankruptcy Trustee from 1961 to 1972. John was frequently appointed by the local Chancery Courts to act as a Receiver for businesses in financial straits. John acted as Receiver for a large tobacco cooperative and a well-known Printer's Alley nightclub, among many others.

John's father, John A. Cheadle, was a graduate of Harvard Law School, and practiced in Texas and Colorado. John's father's father, also an attorney, was the co-founder and long-time Dean of the Oklahoma University School of Law and was a participant in the Oklahoma land rush. In fact, John's grandfather's law license in 1906 was from the Supreme Court of the Territory of Oklahoma.

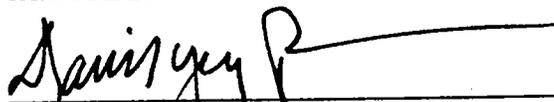
John was a life-long Episcopalian and long-time member of St. George's Church.

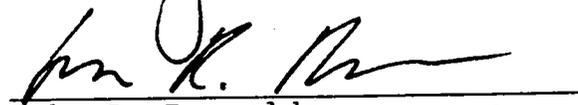
John was known for his fine intelligence, integrity, character, ready wit and unceasing compassion. He practiced law with the precept that he could zealously represent his client while maintaining a respectful and cordial relationship with opposing counsel.

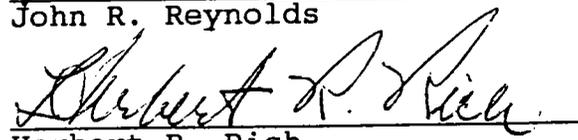
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Nashville Bar Association, that the contributions of John Roaten Cheadle, Sr. to mankind be remembered forever; that we have lost a great friend; that this Memorial Resolution be placed in the permanent records of the Nashville Bar Association and entered on the "In Memoriam" minute book of the Chancery Court of Davidson County; and that copies thereof be furnished to John Roaten Cheadle, Sr.'s family.

This the 20th day of November, 1997.

NASHVILLE BAR ASSOCIATION  
Historical Committee

  
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David Y. Parker

  
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John R. Reynolds

  
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Herbert R. Rich