

RESOLUTION IN MEMORY OF THE LATE REAU ESTES FOLK, JR.

Your committee members deeply appreciate the Bar affording them the opportunity to present this resolution in memory of one who was an upright man, an affectionate husband and father, and an excellent lawyer.

Reau Folk lived a short life, from his birth on January 6, 1917 until his death on January 27, 1973. But he was born to a tradition of excellence, and he honored that tradition throughout his life. His father, Reau E. Folk, Sr. served at different times as Treasurer of the State of Tennessee and as Commissioner of Insurance and Banking of the State of Tennessee. His uncle, Joseph Folk, was also active in government, having been Governor of the State of Missouri and a United States Senator from that State. Upon his death, Reau left his widow, Elinor Johnson Folk, known to all her friends as Lin, his children, Rozanne Elizabeth and John Winston Folk, and his brother, Rear Admiral Winston Folk, U.S. Navy (Retired), who now resides in Old Lyne, Connecticut.

One of Reau Folk's favorite quotations, and perhaps the motto of his life, was "Learn as if to Live Forever, Live as if to Die Tomorrow." He fully lived up to that motto throughout his life, continuing his insatiable search for knowledge almost to the moment of his death, and so conducting himself at all times that it could never at any moment be said that he was doing less than his best, and doing this with the highest degree of morality and with considerable compassion for less fortunate people with whom he dealt from time to time.

Reau Folk was educated at Tarbox School in Nashville and Peabody Demonstration School and then at Webb School in Bell Buckle, Tennessee. At Webb, he made an outstanding record both scholastically and in athletics. He continued both high standards while an undergraduate student at Vanderbilt University where he later acquired his law degree. But in the intervening years between college and law school, he served in the U.S. Merchant Marine in which he travelled around the world, he attended the London School of Economics in London, England, and the Foreign Service School at Georgetown University, and he served as a Chief Yeoman doing public relations work in the United States Navy during World War II.

After he completed law school, where he was a member of the Delta Theta Phi Legal Fraternity, he joined the Nashville law firm which soon became to be known as Moore, Crownover, Branstetter, & Folk, and remained in that firm until shortly before the death of the late Arthur Crownover, Jr., when he established his own firm specializing in Real Estate Law and was one of the most thorough and scholarly lawyers Nashville has ever seen in this highly technical branch of the law.

Reau Folk was always proud of his membership in and service to the Nashville Bar and the Nashville Bar respected him as one who exemplified and deserved the title Gentleman and Scholar. During the last painful year of his illness, I think the brightest spot in Reau Folk's life came when he received from the Nashville Bar Association a Christmas Poinsettia plant with a brief note that said simply "We miss you." and we will continue to miss this man who did the most that any person can ever do with his life---he set for himself the highest standards, he lived up to those standards, and he always treated every other person fairly and gently, he learned as if he expected to live forever, and he lived each day as if it were his last.

Respectfully submitted,

CECIL D. BRANSTETTER