

**PHILLIP H. WILLIAMS  
MEMORIAL AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE  
MONROE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION**

The Court of Common Pleas of Monroe County, Pennsylvania, and the members of the Monroe County Bar Association have convened at 2 p.m. April 19, 2007, in Monroe County Common Pleas, Courtroom No. 1, upon this sad occasion to inscribe upon the minutes of the Bar Association this tribute to the memory of our brother and former colleague, the late Phillip H. Williams, their appreciation for his years of service to the community, to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the United States of America, and their sorrow for his loss which the Bench, the Bar, the community and our Nation have sustained.

Attorney Williams died at age 85 having resided in Stroudsburg and then at RR 5, Box 3160, East Stroudsburg, Pa, 18301, located in Stroud Township. He passed away in his sleep at the VNA Hospice on March 22, 2007. He was survived by his wife Marjorie Lanterman Williams with whom he had been married 58 years. Attorney Williams was 85 years old at the time of his death, having been born October 11, 1921, in Scranton, the son of the late Whitfield and Carrie Williams of Scranton. He received his

public education in the Scranton area.

Attorney Williams continued his education at East Stroudsburg State Teachers College which was interrupted by his voluntary enlistment with the United States Marine Corps. He was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant after he attended courses at Muehlenburg College, and then basic training at Parris Island, South Carolina, and then Officers Candidate School at Quantico, Virginia.

As a Second Lieutenant in the Marine Corps, he was ordered to the Pacific

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where he took part in the campaign under the overall command Admiral Chester W. Nimitz. There he fought in the battle of Saipan, an island in the South Pacific Marianas. There he came under fire as a Platoon leader of 60 millimeter mortars as infantry line support.. This was with the Second Marine Division, Second Regiment. Following the difficult Saipan fight his unit was transported to the Japanese Island of Okinawa, and participated in the Okinawa campaign. The two atomic bombs dropped on Japan home islands ended the war. Phil's post war assignment continued as part of the occupation force of Japan's home islands. He had an interesting history in Japan with various

activities working with Japanese officials involved with businessmen, POW facility, athletic and entertainment events.

He returned in 1946 to the States and to East Stroudsburg State Teachers College to earn his degree in Bachelor of Science.

At the college, Phil had participated and excelled in football and wrestling. In 1949 he attended Georgetown University School of Law and did so well in the two years he attended, that the then modified admissions standards to the Bar, allowed him to apply to take the Bar Exam. Williams worked part-time jobs while in law school, including in a detective agency.

Then there was the recall to the Marine Corps Reserves and they assigned him to the legal office of the Third Marine Division in California. After several months he was transferred to the U.S. Navy Judge Advocate General office in the Pentagon in 1952. He was their appellate defense counsel and then transferred to Washington, D.C., allowing Attorney Williams to obtain his law degree from Georgetown, attending

night classes. He maintained his position in JAG throughout his final year, until his graduation in 1953.

He then returned to Pennsylvania to take a position in private practice with a law firm in Allentown where he worked for several years. He received an offer from the Federal Department of Justice and accepted the position as an Assistant U.S. Attorney, working with Daniel Jenkins of Scranton in the Federal Court, Middle District.

Finally he moved back to Stroudsburg to join as an associate with the law firm of Bensinger and Bensinger at 10 North 7<sup>th</sup> Street in Stroudsburg. He handled important trial work both in State and Federal Courts, especially as defense counsel in condemnation matters. This was the time of construction of Interstate 80 and the Delaware River Basin for the proposed Tocks Island Dam project.

Attorney Williams had joined the Monroe County Bar in 1958 when there were only 22 lawyers practicing here. During this time he ran for and was elected to the Office of District Attorney for Monroe County. He served diligently until the end of his term and then went into independent private practice. This included being on the Zoning Hearing Board, the Borough Solicitor, and 10 years as Worker's Compensation Judge serving in

both Monroe and Lehigh Counties. He took pride in always acting with fairness to all parties. He opened his office in 1970 at 111 North 7<sup>th</sup> Street in Stroudsburg.

Phil was regarded as an excellent trial lawyer with his calm and persuasive manor in the presence of the judge and jury. Through his career in the words of our President Judge Ronald Vican, "Phil has taken pride in seeking justice, acting with

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fairness to the parties in all matters in which he was involved."

Phil had been a member of the East Stroudsburg United Methodist Church, Kiwanis, the VFW, the American Legion, Elks, Masons, and Knights of Columbus.

He loved music and was designated as a DJ at various parties and social gatherings. He took great joy in organizing music and choosing the songs for the parties.

Music was a hobby and his passion and brought him joy and peace.

He was survived by his devoted wife Marjorie, and his children, Mark Williams and his wife, Jane of Apex, North Carolina. Kris Williams of Pocono Summit, Diane Shuman of Albrightsville and grandsons Phillip Tyson Jones of Pompano Beach, Florida and

Giovanni Dalessio of Pocono Summit; a brother Robert Williams of East Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania, and several nieces and nephews.

We deeply and sincerely regret his passing from among us.

**BE IT RESOLVED, THEREFORE,** that we, members of the Monroe County Bar Association, of which our brother, Phillip H. Williams was a member, adopt the foregoing memorial as expressive of the loss which the Bar, the Bench, the community, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and our Nation has sustained by reason of his death, and that we tender his family, legal associates and friends our most sincere and heartfelt sympathy, and be it further

RESOLVED, that this memorial and these resolutions, after having been entered on the minutes of the Association, be filed in the Court of Common Pleas of Monroe County, Pennsylvania, published in the Monroe Legal Reporter, and that copies thereof be transmitted to his widow Marjorie, to his children and to this Law Association in Stroudsburg.

Respectfully submitted by the  
Memorial Committee - April 19, 2007

Alex L. Bensinger, Chairman

Mark A. Primrose, Esquire

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