MEMORIALS

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NEAL BIRMINGHAM

Birmingham, 81, of Atlanta, Texas, died April 30, 2011. He received his law degree from Baylor Law School and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1959. He was a staff attorney with the Texas Highway Department from 1959 to 1961. From 1961 to 1962, he practiced in Birmingham & Mays. He served as district attorney in the Cass County District Attorney's Office in Linden from 1962 to 1995. He served in the Texas National Guard. He is survived by his wife of 43 years, Joan Birmingham; sons, Mark Birmingham of Saipan and David Birmingham of Prosper; daughters, Rebecca Montgomery of Dallas and Sheryl Colliflower of Linden; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

KENNETH JEFFERSON "JEFF" BRAY

Bray, 42, of Plano, died Aug. 20, 2011. He received his law degree from Oklahoma City University School of Law and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1995. He was an assistant district attorney in the Gregg County District Attorney's Office in Longview from 1995 to 1997; in the Dallas County District Attorney's Office from 1997 to 2003; and in the Collin County District Attorney's Office from 2003 to 2006 in McKinney. He was senior legal advisor for the Plano Police Department from 2006 until his death. He is survived by his wife of 14 years, attorney Jennifer Bray; daughter, Charlotte Belle Bray of Plano; parents, Dr. Don Bray and Elizabeth Bray, both of College Station; and brother, Ben Bray of Boston, Mass.

ARTHUR J. RIGGS

Riggs, 95, of Carrollton, died July 12, 2011. He received his law degree from Harvard Law School and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1943. He was a member of the Massachusetts bar. He was an associate of Warner, Stakpole, Statson & Bradlee in Boston, Mass., from 1940 to 1941. From 1941 to 1942, he worked for the Solicitor's Office, U.S. Department of Labor in Dallas. He was a member in Johnson, Broomberg, Leeds & Riggs in Dallas from 1949 to 1981. He was counsel to Geary & Spencer in Dallas from 1981 to 1991. He is survived by his wife of 18 years, Priscilla I. Riggs; sons, Keith Holloway and George Bennett; daughter, Emily Adele Riggs Freeman; stepsons, Curtis McCormack, Kevin McCormack, and Michael McCormack; and 12 grandchildren.

EDWARD TIGER "ED" SMITH

Smith, 64, of Sherman, died Aug. 4, 2011. He received his law degree from Texas Tech University School of Law and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1972. He was an associate of Cunningham, Cole & Southerland in Bonham from 1972 to 1976. He was a private practitioner in Bonham from 1976 to 1988 and from 2001 to 2004. From 1988 to 2001, he was a partner in Smith & Butler in Bonham. He was a president of the North Texas Bar Association. He is survived by his wife of 43 years, Pat Smith; daughters, Leslie Young of Sherman and Mollie Lawrence of Lubbock; brothers, Robert B. Smith of Dallas and Billy M. Smith of Pampa; and two grandchildren.

CHARLES A. SAUNDERS

Saunders, 89, of Houston, died Sept. 10, 2011. He received his law degree from the University of Texas School of Law and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1945. He joined Wood, Gresham, McCorquodale & Martin (which was later merged into Fulbright & Jaworski, L.L.P.) in 1945. He was a senior partner in Fulbright & Jaworski, L.L.P. until his retirement in 1988. He was a president of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel. He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Betti F. Saunders; son, attorney C. Stephen Saunders; daughters, Melanie Walter Mahoney, Cindy Saunders Buggs, and Shelley Saunders Fatherly; sister, Helen Dotson; 11 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

HERSHELL LOUIS BARNES, JR.

Barnes, 68, of Dallas, died July 5, 2011. He received his law degree from Texas Tech University School of Law and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1970. He was an associate and then a partner in Seay, Gwinn & Crawford from 1971 to 1982. He was a partner in Haynes and Boone, L.L.P. from 1982 to 2000; in Karger, Key, Barnes & Springer from 2000 to 2003; and in the Barnes Law Firm, P.C./Key, Harrington, Barnes, P.C. from 2003 until his death. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps and the U.S. Army National Guard Judge Advocate General's Corps. He is survived by his wife of four years, Mitzi Tolbert Barnes; son, Hershell L. Barnes III of Celina; daughter, Jessica Barnes Collard of McKinney; and five grandchildren.

JAMES BRUTON GAMBRELL III

Gambrell, 84, of Hunt, died Dec. 3, 2010. He received his law degree from New York University School of Law and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1976. He was a member of the California, New York, and Oklahoma bars. He was a patent attorney in Tulsa, Okla., from 1957 to 1959 and an associate of Townsend & Townsend in San Francisco, Calif., from 1959 to 1961. He was a partner in Fowler, Knobbe & Gambrell in Santa Ana, Calif., from 1963 to 1996; in Gambrell, Wilson & Hamilton, L.L.P. in Austin from 1993 to 1995; and in Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld, L.L.P. in Austin and Washington, D.C. from 1995 to 2000. He was a professor of law at New York University School of Law from 1966 to 1976 and at the University of Houston Law Center from 1976 to 1982. He was a visiting professor of law at the University of Texas School of Law in Austin in 2000, 2002, and 2010. He was a shareholder in Pravel, Gambrell, Hewitt, Kimball & Krieger, P.C. in Houston from 1976 to 1993. He served in the U.S. Navy Reserve from 1943 to 1946. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Helen Roddy Gambrell; son, James B. Gambrell IV of London, England; daughters, Jamey Gambrell of New York, N.Y., and Gretchen Gambrell Asbury of Hunt; sister, Marcia Gambrell Hovick of Monterey, Calif.; and four grandchildren.

LUTHER W. COOK, JR.

Cook, 82, of Onalasha, died May 31, 2011. He received his law degree from the University of Houston Law Center and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1970. He practiced with Cook & Layne from 1970 to 1980 and later practiced with Tenneco. He served in the U.S. Navy. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Ivill F. Cook; sons, Randall Cook of Bedias and Bradley Cook of Houston; daughter, Rhonda Norris of Houston; eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

ELAINE MURMAN FERGUSON

Ferguson, 64, of Abilene, died Sept. 21, 2011. She received her law degree from St. Mary's University School of Law and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 2001. She was a sole practitioner. She is survived by her sons, Charles Ferguson of Albany, and attorney Brian Ferguson of Austin; daughter, attorney Brenda Hasenzahl of Fort Worth; mother, Agnes Murman of Lakewood, Ohio; brothers, Michael Murman and David Murman, both of Lakewood, Ohio; sisters, Anne Marie Grove of Aurora, Ind., and Maureen Murman of Lakewood, Ohio; and five grandchildren.

HENRY K. KNOLLE

Knolle, 92, of Houston, died June 5, 2011. He received his law degree from South Texas College of Law and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1948. From 1944 to 1986, he was assistant city controller for the City of Houston. He is survived by his wife of 35 years, Joy Ann Knolle; stepdaughters, Jo-Ellyn Vincent and Gaye McMullen-Mark; three grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

JAMES D. COFFEE

Coffee, 64, of San Antonio, died Dec. 26, 2010. He received his law degree from South Texas College of Law and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1976. He practiced with Moriarty & Madigan in Houston before becoming a private practitioner in the Law Firm of James D. Coffee from 1976 until his death. He served in the U.S. Army from 1967 to 1969. He is survived by his wife of 15 years, Brenda Ray Coffee; son, Kirkland Coffee; brother, attorney Mark Coffee of San Antonio; and sister, Patti Fox.

JACK D. NOLAN

Nolan, 72, of Houston, died July 31, 2011. He received his law degree from South Texas College of Law and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1974. He was a sole practitioner in the Law Office of Jack D. Nolan from 1983 to 1997. From 1997 until his death, he was a senior partner in the Law Offices of Nolan & Nolan, where he practiced with his daughter, Jordin Nolan Kruse. He served in the U.S. Air Force. He is survived by his wife of one year, Charla Clements; sons, Chris Nolan, Gregg Nolan, and Steve Nolan; daughter, attorney Jordin Nolan Kruse; sister, Judy Wingate; and seven grandchildren.

OLLIE K. MAYO

Mayo, 78, of San Antonio, died March 28, 2010. He received his law degree from St. Mary's University School of Law and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1960. He was a private practitioner in the Law Office of Ollie K. Mayo from 1960 until his death. He served in the U.S. Army and the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Corps. He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Helga Mayo; son, attorney Patrick Mayo of San Antonio; daughter, Christina Henarie of San Antonio; and three grandchildren.

KELLN ANNE ZIMMER

Zimmer, 29, of Amarillo, died Aug. 19, 2010. She received her law degree from Texas Tech University School of Law and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 2008. She was an associate of Sanders Baker in 2008 and of the Underwood Law Firm from 2009 until her death. She is survived by her parents, John Markley Zimmer and Jill Marks Zimmer; and brothers, John Ryan Zimmer of Amarillo and Bennett Reed Zimmer of College Station.

RICHARD J. HATCH, SR.

Hatch, 81, of Corpus Christi, died Aug. 16, 2011. He received his law degree from the University of Texas School of Law and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1958. He practiced with Mahoney, Shaffer, Hatch & Layton from 1959 to 1987 and with Pritchard, Poole, Hatch, Cartwright, Hall & Kratz from 1987 to 1992. He was a partner in Hatch & Hatch from 1992 to 1995 and in the Hatch Law Firm from 1999 until his retirement in 2004. He was of counsel to Meredith, Donnell & Abernathy from 1993 to 1999. He was general counsel to the Kenedy Memorial Foundation from 1984 to 1995. He served in the U.S. Army. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Phoebe C. Hatch; son, attorney Richard J. Hatch, Jr. of Corpus Christi; daughters, Elizabeth Padon of Houston, Mary Jane Webster of Fort Worth, Jeannette Michael of Austin, and Patricia Billings of Cypress; and 11 grandchildren.

JACK YARBOROUGH HARDEE

Hardee, 88, of Athens, died July 18, 2011. He received his law degree from the University of Texas School of Law and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1950. From 1948 to 1951, he served as a Texas state representative. He was the Henderson County attorney from 1951 to 1956 and district attorney in the Henderson County District Attorney's Office from 1957 to 1962. He served as judge of the Third District Court in Athens from 1962 to 1965. He was a partner in Fields, Fields & Hardee. He was a president of the Henderson Bar Association. He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II. He is survived by his daughters, Pam Burdick and Deborah Gardiner; brother, Brooks Hardee; sisters, Virginia Breedlove and Nancy Schaefer; one grandchild; and two great-grandchildren.

STANLEY R. PLETTMAN

Plettman, 85, of Beaumont, died Aug. 7, 2010. He received his law degree from the University of Texas School of Law and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1949. He joined Orgain, Bell & Tucker, L.L.P. in 1949 and became a partner in 1952. He was a partner in the firm until 1993. From 1993 until his death, he was of counsel to the firm. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Maurine Plettman; daughters, Linda Plettman Surley of Houston, attorney Susan Plettman Rankin of Austin, and Elaine Plettman of Tyngsborough, Mass; and two grandchildren.

L. GLEN KRATOCHVIL

Kratochvil, 88, of West Columbia, died Sept. 11, 2011. He received his law degree from the University of Wisconsin Law School and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1951. He was a partner in Shirmeyer & Kratochvil from 1956 to 1976 and owner of Kratochvil & Powell from 1976 to 2004. He served in the U.S. Navy. He is survived by his son, L. Glen Kratochvil, Jr.; one grandchild; and two great-grandchildren.

BARRY K. BISHOP

Bishop, 69, of Austin, died Oct. 11, 2011. He received his law degree from the University of Texas School of Law and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1967. From 1967 to 1968, he was a briefing attorney to Texas Supreme Court Chief Justice Joe Greenhill. He was a shareholder in Clark, Thomas & Winters, P.C. from 1968 until his retirement in 2010. He served in the National Guard from 1961 to 1962. He is survived by his wife, Linda Bishop; son, Bill Bishop; brother, Brian Bishop; and two grandchildren.

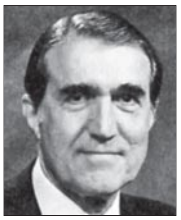
JAMES M. SPILLER

Spiller, 79, of Jacksboro, died Oct. 10, 2011. He received his law degree from the University of Texas School of Law and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1959. He was a sole practitioner from 1959 to 1986. From 1986 until his death, he was a partner in Spiller & Spiller. He was city attorney for the City of Jacksboro. He served in the U.S. Air Force. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Mary Spiller; sons, attorney David Spiller and attorney Scott A. Spiller, both of Jacksboro; daughter, Karen Forbis of Decatur; and six grandchildren.

THOMAS HOWELL HIGHT, SR.

Hight, 84, of Eustace, died Feb. 19, 2011. He received his law degree from the University of Texas School of Law and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1952. He practiced law in Dallas. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He is survived by his sons, attorney Thomas Hight, Jr. and Lee Hight; daughter, Hillary Hight Daw; six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

EDWIN MORGAN SCHMIDT



Schmidt, 90, of San Antonio, died Feb. 9, 2011. He received his law degree from the University of Iowa College of Law and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1977. He was a member of the Iowa and Oklahoma bars. He was an associate of a Davenport, Iowa, law firm for three years before returning to active military duty with the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Corps. He retired from the service in 1970. After retirement, he became a tenured faculty member of the law schools at the University of Tulsa College of Law and St. Mary's University School of Law. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Sybil A. Schmidt, and daughter, Shelly Bates of Dallas.

WILLIAM M. GATEWOOD, JR.

Gatewood, 76, of Floresville, died Jan. 7, 2011. He received his law degree from St. Mary's University School of Law and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1971. He was a private practitioner in the Law Office of William M. Gatewood, Jr. in San Antonio from 1971 until his death. He served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War. He is survived by his wife of 14 years, Patricia Brown Gatewood; sons, Daryl Gatewood of Aransas Pass and David Gatewood of St. Augustine, Fla.; daughter, Diane Frazer of San Antonio; nine grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

LEONARD R. HASSELL

Hassell, 92, of Dallas, died Nov. 23, 2010. He received his law degree from Southern Methodist University and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1954. He was a sole practitioner in Dallas. He served in the U.S. Army. He is survived by his daughter, Cindy Mungle of Irving.

RICHARD N. EVANS

Evans, 86, of Beaumont, died Feb. 22, 2011. He received his law degree from Baylor Law School and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1948. He practiced with Marcus & Weller from 1951 to 1956. He was managing partner in Evans, Moses & Barkley from 1984 to 1989 and in Evans & Evans from 1989 to 1997. He was a sole practitioner from 1997 until his death. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Eloise Kelly Evans; son, attorney Richard N. Evans II of Beaumont; daughter, Kathy Iles of Lumberton; brothers, Charles Evans of Houston and Robert Evans of Fort Worth; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

JAMES CECIL TINKLER

Tinkler, 81, of Houston, died March 19, 2010. He received his law degree from the University of Texas School of Law and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1955. He was a landman for the Continental Oil Company from 1955 to 1982. From 1985 to 1998, he was the endowed chair of the University of Houston Business School, where he taught business law. He served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War. He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Cecilia Culpepper Tinkler; son, Daniel L. Tinkler of Houston; daughter, Susan Tinkler O'Neal of Dallas; brother, Coles Tinkler of Littleton, Colo.; and five grandchildren.

TIFFANI BURKHOLDER

Burkholder, 39, of Midland, died Aug. 20, 2011. She received her law degree from the University of Tulsa College of Law and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 2000. She was a member of the Oklahoma bar. She began her law career with Warren Young in Tulsa, Okla. She practiced with Grady, Schneider & Newman in Houston. She is survived by her mother, Jean Roberson Burkholder; and sister, Tera Burkholder King.

MARTIN F. O'DONNELL

O'Donnell, 73, of Dallas, died Sept. 27, 2010. He received his law degree from Southern Methodist University and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1966. He was a partner in Feldman & O'Donnell from 1966 until his death. He served in the U.S. Navy. He is survived by his wife of 44 years, Kathleen O'Donnell; son, Stephen O'Donnell of Dallas; daughters, Maureen O'Donnell of Dallas and Jane O'Donnell of La Jolla, Calif.; brother, Brian O'Donnell of Coppell; sister, Moira Savage of Dallas; and two grandchildren.

McGEE PARRAMORE

Parramore, 78, of Cape Coral, Fla., died Dec. 12, 2006. He received his law degree from the University of Alabama School of Law and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1959. He was a member of the Illinois bar. He was an attorney for Greyhound Corporation in Chicago, Ill., from 1964 to 1970. From 1971 to 1976, he was an attorney for Quasar of Motorola in Schaumburg, Ill. He was a private practitioner in Palatine, Ill., from 1977 until his retirement in 1996. He served in the U.S. Navy. He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Nancy Parramore; son, Scott Parramore of Lake in the Hills, Ill.; daughter, Wendy Parramore Crawford of Cape Coral, Fla.; and two grandchildren.

DONALD G. WILHELM

Wilhelm, 49, of Houston, died Aug. 7, 2011. He received his law degree from South Texas College of Law and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1991. He was a private practitioner in the Wilhelm Law Firm from 1991 until his death. He is survived by his wife of 13 years, attorney Michelle Wilhelm; daughter, Brooke Wilhelm; father, Louis F. Wilhelm; and sisters, Luanne Runco and Cindy Reznikov.

LEE SAMUEL BURNS

Burns, 82, of Houston, died Dec. 5, 2010. He received his law degree from the University of Houston Law Center and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1964. He was a partner in Burns & Brashier before opening Sam Burns & Associates. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps. He is survived by his sister, Lynda Perry of Ackerly; two grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. ✪