

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION OF THE BAR ASSOCIATION OF THE SEVENTH
FEDERAL CIRCUIT AT ITS ANNUAL MEETING, MAY 19, 1986

Judge Latham Castle was born on February 27, 1900 in Sandwich, Illinois, his home for virtually all of his 86 years and where he died on March 10, 1986. He was a third generation native of Sandwich, his grandparents having settled there in 1845. He was educated in the Sandwich public schools and in 1918 enrolled both in Northwestern University and in a World War I United States Army Officer's training unit at the University. After the Armistice, he continued college at Northwestern and then attended its law school from which he was graduated in 1924. He was admitted to the bar of Illinois and commenced practice in Chicago, but his father died soon thereafter and he returned to Sandwich to care for his mother and the family interests among which were the Sandwich State Bank, founded by his grandfather in 1856. He later served as the Bank's President for ten years and as a director for 36 years.

Judge Castle continued the practice of law upon returning to Sandwich and soon became its City Attorney. In 1928 he was elected State's Attorney of DeKalb County in which office he served until 1940 when he became an Assistant Attorney General of Illinois. In 1942 he became County Judge of DeKalb county and served until 1953 when he became Attorney General of Illinois.

In 1959 Judge Castle was nominated to the United States Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit by President

Dwight D. Eisenhower. He sat on its bench for 21 years, and served as Chief Judge from 1968 to 1970. He then served as a Senior Circuit Judge until he retired in 1980. He was a former president of the National Association of State Attorneys General, the Illinois States Attorneys Association and the DeKalb County Bar Association. He was a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers.

The great joys of Judge Castle's life were people. First among them were his own family, his adored wife, Georgiana, who predeceased him by only two months, his son, John, his daughter-in-law, Nancy, and his four grandchildren. He was deeply proud of them and of their achievements, particularly their continuation of the family tradition of public service.

Judge Castle was devoted to his neighbors who were the people of Sandwich and DeKalb County and who came from all walks of life. His genuine interest in all people and his warm nature generated response from nearly all who were privileged to know him. His compassion for any of those who suffered adversity was boundless. As his son John said in his eulogy for his father:

Dad managed his time carefully and never imposed on the time of others, yet, somehow, he always had time to listen to anyone who had a need to talk to him. He always had time to write a note, make a

phone call, or make a personal visit. He deeply appreciated the many dear friends who had blessed his life. He never forgot anyone he met, and few ever forgot him.

Judge Castle's career comprised almost sixty years of service to his community, his state and his nation. He enjoyed all phases of it and felt himself profoundly rewarded by the satisfactions of that service. He held his brothers on the Court both in high professional esteem and warm personal regard. One of them, the late Robert A. Sprecker, previously had served under Judge Castle as Assistant Attorney General of Illinois. Judge Sprecker's later becoming a distinguished Judge of the Seventh Circuit was a source of great personal satisfaction to Judge Castle.

Judge Castle revered the Court and deemed his service on it the highest attainment of his career. The role of judge was for him an opportunity to serve the people of his country. To that opportunity he brought a demanding and determined sense of duty to serve them well. He was known for his efforts always to stay abreast of his judicial work. His opinions were promptly completed, well crafted and he strove within their needs to keep them as short as possible.

Though always a tolerant and kindly man full of humor, the strength of his character dictated strong convictions as to right and wrong. Integrity in all things was

requisite and he never compromised where principal was at issue. His concepts of equity and fairness, as well as right and wrong, were the touchstones for his decision making, yet his strong moral convictions were mitigated by the depth of his understanding and love of others.

Judge Castle belonged to his town, Sandwich, Illinois, and its people to him. Happiness was being there among his friends whom he believed were responsible for all of the success of his life. The post office and newsstand, the old diner where Teddy Roosevelt ate when campaigning in the area and the family bank were important to him as places where he could stay in touch with people. Sandwich was a wellspring of his life, and its rural middle America values were the bedrock on which he stood. May I close by quoting again from his son John's beautiful eulogy:

He was a giver and not a taker. He has left his family, his friends and his community a legacy that cannot be measured in material terms. At the end he had no regrets, no work left undone and no words of love left unspoken. He believed that he had been blessed through life and for him the words of the 23rd psalm summed it all up: 'Thou annointest my head with oil, my cup runneth over.'

Beverly W. Pattishall
May 19, 1986

MINUTES OF THE JOINT ANNUAL MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS AND MEMBERS OF
THE SEVENTH CIRCUIT BAR ASSOCIATION
HELD AT MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN ON TUESDAY
MAY 20, 1986

The joint annual meeting of the Board of Governors, Committee Chairmen and Members of The Seventh Circuit Bar Association was called to order at 12:15 p.m. on Tuesday, May 20, 1986 at The Pfister Hotel, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, pursuant to call by the President and notice by the Secretary.

Present were:

Officers: John S. Skilton, President; H. Blair White, First Vice President; Eugene C. Miller, Jr., Second Vice President; William A. Montgomery, Secretary; Dale E. Ihlenfeldt, Treasurer.

Board of Governors: William A. Barnett; James R. Dowdall; J. Frederick Hoffman; William F. Welch; Francis J. Demet; Howard A. Pollack.

Past Presidents: Sigmund J. Beck; James P. Brody; Joseph B. Carney; Mark Crane; Edward A. Haight; Walter T. Kuhlmeier; Sidney Neuman; Glenn O. Starke; Karl J. Stipher; Robert C. Williams; James C. Wood.

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Administration of Justice: Lloyd A. Barbee, Wisconsin Chairman.

Bankruptcy Law and Procedure: Louis W. Levit, General Chairman; Michael C. Runde, Wisconsin Chairman.