

Memorial Resolution of the Bar Association of the Seventh
Federal Circuit at Its Annual Meeting, May 14, 1984.

JUDGE WIN G. KNOCH

Judge Knoch was born in Naperville, Illinois on May 24, 1895. He died on May 23, 1983, the evening before his 88th birthday, at his farm home near Naperville. It is characteristic of Judge Knoch's entire life that he died quietly at home after a happy day there devoted to an open house celebration entertaining some 250 guests, friends and family.

Judge Knoch graduated in 1917 from DePaul University Law School. He was admitted to the Illinois Bar and then served from 1917 to 1919 as an officer with the American Expeditionary Forces in France. After service, he returned to and practiced law in Naperville. In 1926 he married his beloved wife, Irene, and they were blessed with four daughters, Marjorie, Marion, Doris and Joanne. He became Assistant State's Attorney for DuPage County while practicing law and he was elected County Judge in 1930. In 1939, he became Circuit Judge for Illinois' 16th Judicial Circuit. In 1953, he became a United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois, and in 1958 he was elevated to the United States Circuit Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. In 1967 he became a Senior Circuit Judge, which he remained until his death. He was a judge for 53 years.

During his long life, nearly all of which was devoted to service to others, to his country and to his community, Judge Knoch received many honors and much recognition. But what he always cherished most was the company and affection of his family, his colleagues, and his host of friends. He truly loved people and his greatest joys came from aiding them and contributing to their well-being.

Judge Knoch was known really as "Mr. Naperville," and, by his own estimate, his most important civic contributions were his efforts during the great depression in organizing the Naperville National Bank, because that bank was then able to extend credit so dearly needed by the citizens of his community, after two previous banks had been liquidated. Judge Knoch was justifiably proud of his leading role in organizing and serving as a director of Naperville's Edward General Hospital. He also was particularly pleased to have served as chairman of both Naperville's, and DuPage County's, centennial celebrations. Among his most appreciated honors was the Boy Scouts of America's highest award, the Silver Beaver Award, given for distinguished service to American youth.

Judge Knoch received the Silver Beaver Award for his work in the Juvenile Courts and with the Child Welfare Commission of Illinois in the prevention of juvenile delinquency.

Judge Knoch was much beloved by those he encountered in all spheres of his active life, and especially by those who worked in the offices of the federal courts of Chicago. For many years he invited the entire court family annually to a grand picnic barbecue party complete with band, singing and merriment at his Naperville farm. It was always a happy occasion for all.

Judge Knoch was a profoundly religious man who was devoted to and ardently supported his church, Naperville's Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church, in all its works. He served as a trustee of that church and as a leader in many other activities of the Catholic church. Judge William Bauer has told us that Judge Knoch's rule for himself was always that:

"The twin stars that guide one's life
are faith in God and love of country."

Judge Knoch served his God, his country and the cause of justice for all his life. He fought for good and against evil, particularly the evil of crime. He gave his best to these services, and his friendship to all around him. We are the better for his lifetime.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS
OF THE BAR ASSOCIATION OF THE SEVENTH FEDERAL
CIRCUIT HELD AT INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA ON
TUESDAY, MAY 15, 1984

The meeting of the Board of Governors and Committee Chairmen of the Bar Association of the Seventh Federal Circuit was called to order at noon on Tuesday, May 15, 1984, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel pursuant to call by the President and notice from the Secretary.

Present were:

Officers: Joseph B. Carney, President; Mark Crane, First Vice President; John S. Skilton, Second Vice President; Dale E. Ihlenfeldt, Treasurer.

Board of Governors: Francis J. Demet, Carl D. Overman, Howard A. Pollack.

Past Presidents: Sigmund J. Beck, Jerry P. Belknap, Irvin B. Charne, Edward A. Haight, Robert C. Keck, Thomas M. Scanlon, Theodore R. Scott, Glenn O. Starke, Karl J. Stipher, Robert C. Williams, James C. Wood, Harold R. Woodard.

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

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

Bankruptcy Law and Procedure: Louis W. Levit, General Chairman.

Circuit Rider: John C. McNett, Indiana Chairman.