

1 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT  
2 FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

3 PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

4 MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR

5  
6 R. BROOKE BORTNER

7 HONORABLE JOSEPH S. CASULA

8 ANDREW W. DYER, SR.

9 JOSEPH L. GIBSON, JR.

10 WILLIAM J. PARKER, JR.

11 SAMUEL K. RENSIN

12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17 THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2015

18 4:00 P.M.

19 COURTROOM 3400M

20 COURTHOUSE

21 UPPER MARLBORO, MARYLAND

22  
23  
24 SUSAN A. MILTON

25 OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

MEMORIAL TRIBUTES

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## P R O C E E D I N G S

1  
2 . . .The Court convened en banc at 4:00 p.m.,  
3 there being present Honorable SHEILA R. TILLERSON ADAMS,  
4 Administrative Judge, Seventh Judicial Circuit and other  
5 associate judges.

6 JUDGE ADAMS: Good afternoon and welcome to the  
7 Annual Memorial Service in conjunction with the Prince  
8 George's County Bar Association. This courtroom today,  
9 3400, has been a courtroom of ceremonies. We started  
10 off this morning with the Annual Adoption Ceremony where  
11 we had many children and babies here and families coming  
12 together starting their life together and we end the day  
13 with this fitting ceremony and tribute to the members of  
14 the Bar who have served this community, but have also  
15 left this community during this year and we gather here  
16 today to pay tribute to them. So without any further  
17 ado, I'd like to introduce the President of the Prince  
18 George's County Bar Association, The Honorable Joseph L.  
19 Wright, to open the ceremony.

20 JUDGE WRIGHT: Thanks for being here, everyone.

21 Being a lawyer is more than just having an  
22 occupation or having a really great job, you're also a  
23 member of a family. The Bar is family and when we lose  
24 our families, we have this memorial service every year.

25 I've been attending this Memorial Service since

1 I was a young lawyer. You learn about all those whose  
2 steps I walk in and you understand the history of the  
3 Prince George's Bar. We want to say thank you to all.

4 Also, we invite the families because families  
5 have a true understanding of what it's like to be  
6 married to a lawyer, to have a father or mother that is  
7 a lawyer. This is one of those occupations where it's  
8 not just a job, it's who you are, and the families  
9 understand that as well. Because of that, we do have  
10 tokens for the families. We will pass those out at the  
11 end of the ceremony itself. Thank you very much for  
12 coming.

13 JUDGE ADAMS: Now I'd like to turn the ceremony  
14 over to the Chair of the Memorial Committee, The  
15 Honorable William D. Missouri.

16 JUDGE MISSOURI: Thank you, Your Honor.

17 Judge Adams and Judge Martin, Judge Harrell,  
18 Judge Hotten, Judge Chasanow, to all of the judges here  
19 in attendance and to everyone else, good afternoon.

20 GUESTS: Good afternoon.

21 JUDGE MISSOURI: That's the best you can do?

22 GUESTS: Good afternoon.

23 JUDGE MISSOURI: Thank you.

24 This may be a sad occasion, but it's also a  
25 happy occasion because it gives us the opportunity to

1 honor those that we have served with over the years. A  
2 couple days before I retired, Judge Rattal said he  
3 wanted to see me. I had no clue as to why, but I  
4 thought what the heck, I'm going to be out of this  
5 office pretty soon anyway. He wants something, I'll say  
6 yes, and then Judge Adams has to deal with him.

7           What he did, he wanted to ask me if I would  
8 chair the Memorial Committee. I knew that Judge Femia  
9 had done this for time immemorial, and I wondered why he  
10 left. Now I know, because it takes a lot. You have to  
11 try to do the best you can on behalf of your departed  
12 colleagues. It is a labor, but it's one of love and I'm  
13 very fortunate to have somebody to help me. She  
14 threatened me that I would not get dinner for a long  
15 time if I introduced her, so I won't do that.

16           I thank everyone for being here. I'll speak to  
17 you again briefly at the end of the ceremony, but please  
18 understand this is about service, service to one's  
19 community, service to one's profession. At this time,  
20 it's my pleasure to introduce Pamela J. Gregory, who is  
21 the former law librarian for this court and who did a  
22 fantastic job while she had it.

23           MS. GREGORY: Thank you, Judge Missouri.

24           Many friends, far too many to recognize by name  
25 over there on the right, but the people that I worked

1 with all those years, even Judge Ahalt smiling there --  
2 look at him -- and the appellate judges who came to the  
3 library and stayed and stayed and stayed and they worked  
4 hard in this court and it was my privilege to serve  
5 here.

6 I'm here today to remember my old friend Brooke  
7 Bortner who was born in 1945 in Baltimore and who grew  
8 up in, I would say, maybe a privileged environment with  
9 a family that shared a lot of love and a lot of  
10 attention on him. He was a very bright and very  
11 good-looking boy and he loved music.

12 In the time that I knew Brooke, Judge William  
13 McCullough introduced the two of us. He brought Brooke  
14 up to the library -- we were on the second floor of the  
15 old courthouse -- and he said, you two live a block  
16 apart in D.C. and you should carpool. On that occasion,  
17 we decided that we just might because both of us had  
18 foolishly purchased BMWs and we didn't realize then at  
19 the time that half the time, that one of them was going  
20 to be in the shop.

21 Now, I told Gina, his most recent beloved of  
22 the last decade, that I really couldn't remember who got  
23 which BMW first, but they were both cursed. The two  
24 beautiful women sitting next to my husband Richard  
25 Marcus are Gina Romano Reynolds and Judy Manus, both of

1 | whom were very special women in his life.

2 |           Brooke loved to sail. He had boats in 1999, he  
3 | had boats in 1970. I remember a time when I was married  
4 | to the astronomer when Brooke and I took off on a sail,  
5 | and it was almost four in the morning before we got back  
6 | because the wind died.

7 |           Then there were those times when the two  
8 | captains, Dick and Judy Kaye, our beloved friends for  
9 | life, would sail over to Pirates Cove. Because they'd  
10 | been out in the sun all day, sometimes those two  
11 | captains would fall asleep in the restaurant at Pirates  
12 | Cove before they got back on the boat again. You never  
13 | know. It's just what the bay does to you and he was  
14 | happiest when he was sailing I think or he was happiest  
15 | playing music. I've decided that Brooke most likely was  
16 | a musician who ended up practicing law.

17 |           The last time I saw Brooke, it was 2006 or '7,  
18 | I can't remember which, and I was up on Capitol Hill at  
19 | The Library of Congress attending what we call a Joint  
20 | Spring Workshop. As I came out of the Madison Building,  
21 | I ran into Brooke who had his pipes and his tin whistle  
22 | and he was on his way to a gig on Capitol Hill, and he  
23 | said, oh, Pammy, I haven't got time to talk, but I have  
24 | to tell you that I've met this librarian. She's been  
25 | the love of my life. I've never been happier. We have

1 a house on Hill and we've got to get together. We've  
2 got to get together so you can meet her. It was evident  
3 at that time that he was indeed as happy as I'd ever  
4 seen him.

5 Now, my time before you today is limited. This  
6 time for storytelling in this community is precious and  
7 sacred. Treat it well. I'm going to close with a poem  
8 that was written by Jason Amster and is being used with  
9 his permission.

10 "For RBB: I missed his passing. My old  
11 friend. We were out of touch. Distractions, I can't  
12 recall. Shameful priorities. My life now is full of  
13 him."

14 (Applause.)

15 JUDGE MISSOURI: It is significant at this time  
16 that I get an opportunity to introduce the person who  
17 has been a mentor to me over the many years that I've  
18 been in this profession, and he's here today on behalf  
19 of his friend, The Honorable Joseph S. Casula, The  
20 Honorable Howard S. Chasanow.

21 JUDGE CHASANOW: Judges, distinguished guests,  
22 family and friends of those who we pay tribute here  
23 today and special greetings to the Casula family, many  
24 of whom came some distance to join us here today.  
25 Retired Judge Joseph S. Casula died November 28th, 2014.

1 He was almost 80 years old and he was a man who had  
2 dedicated his life to the law.

3 Most of us knew the character traits that Judge  
4 Casula possessed which made him a great judge. Those  
5 traits included his humility, his integrity, his  
6 brilliance, his empathy and his kindness. It's probably  
7 equally important to recognize the character traits that  
8 he lacked. For example, he lacked the trait of  
9 arrogance, which is often possessed in abundance by some  
10 judges. He lacked the trait of false pride. He lacked  
11 conceit and he had absolutely no deceitfulness.

12 In my brief allotted of time, I'd like to give  
13 you a glimpse of Joe Casula's life, and it really reads  
14 like a novel. For example, he grew up in the small  
15 rural town of Shenandoah, Pennsylvania. He was the son  
16 of a coal miner and the youngest of 11 children. He and  
17 his brother Frank were the only boys surrounded by a  
18 host of sisters. They both learned valuable lessons  
19 about respecting women that Joe carried long through his  
20 life.

21 Joe was a gifted student undergraduate as well  
22 as graduate. Following his graduation from law school,  
23 he served his country in the United States Army.

24 He began his judicial career as a law clerk to  
25 the Court of Appeals Judge Charles C. Marbury, and after

1 that clerkship, he went into private practice in Upper  
2 Marlboro. He had a successful and diversified practice,  
3 both civil and criminal, and he enjoyed helping others  
4 as well as enjoyed public service. For example, he  
5 served as City Attorney for several cities including  
6 Bowie, Landover Hills and Capitol Heights. He also  
7 served as Prince George's County Attorney and headed the  
8 Office of Law for several years.

9 In 1980, Joe began his judicial career when he  
10 was appointed to the Prince George's County District  
11 Court and in 1985 when he was appointed to the Circuit  
12 Court. Like every judge, Judge Casula had many  
13 difficult cases. I probably should mention what was  
14 clearly his most difficult and certainly his most  
15 notorious case. I said clearly probably his most  
16 difficult, and it wasn't. It was the 1988 murder case  
17 of State versus Jane Bolding.

18 The case began with a huge increase in cardiac  
19 deaths of severely-ill patients in the Intensive Care  
20 Unit of Prince George's Hospital. Many of the deceased  
21 patients were found to have larger-than-expected levels  
22 of potassium chloride in their blood. Now, potassium  
23 chloride is a mineral that's found in the human body;  
24 however, too much of it can cause cardiac arrest.

25 Because of this huge influx of sudden cardiac

1 deaths, a hospital committee was formed to look into  
2 them. The committee did an extensive analysis of  
3 approximately two years of cardiac deaths occurring in  
4 the six-bed Intensive Care Unit. It was discovered that  
5 most of these deaths occurred at the end of the evening  
6 shift when Nurse Jane Bolding was on duty. In fact,  
7 Bolding's patients were 96 times more likely to  
8 experience cardiac deaths than patients of any other  
9 nurse. In fact, after Bolding was terminated, the death  
10 rate dropped dramatically.

11 Well, the committee report about these  
12 statistics ended up in the hands of the Prince George's  
13 Police Department. Now, this was before the era of  
14 mercy killings and this was just thought to be something  
15 incredible.

16 Well, Bolding was apprehended, arrested by the  
17 Prince George's Police Department and she was then  
18 interrogated nonstop for 23 straight hours by three  
19 rotating shifts of detectives. Interestingly during  
20 that period, the hospital attorney came to see if he  
21 could talk to Jane Bolding and he was told no, and  
22 Bolding was never told that the hospital attorney was  
23 outside.

24 Well, after this grueling 23 hours of  
25 interrogation, Bolding broke down and admitted injecting

1 one patient with potassium chloride. Eleven more hours  
2 of interrogation followed, but there were no more  
3 admissions forthcoming. Well, Bolding was indicted for  
4 three counts of murder and three death certificates were  
5 amended to show that the patients died as a result of  
6 overdoses of potassium chloride.

7 Well, when she was indicted, the case  
8 engendered incredible headlines throughout the country  
9 and even internationally. Magazine articles were  
10 written. The case was just followed incessantly and  
11 Bolding was called such things as the Angel of Death and  
12 a lot worse. Ultimately Judge Casula was assigned the  
13 case. I'm sure it was not something he looked forward  
14 to.

15 Well, because the attorneys were obviously  
16 afraid that this huge amount of publicity had tainted  
17 any potential jury not only in Prince George's County,  
18 but anywhere, they decided they had no alternative but  
19 to elect a court trial. Now, the fact they firmly  
20 believed that Judge Casula had a reputation as a fair  
21 and honest jurist helped.

22 The trial of Jane Bolding began and obviously  
23 the first issue was the confession. Confession, it was  
24 admission to one of the three cases and an injection of  
25 potassium chloride.

1           Now, some judges, present company excepted,  
2 would have taken the easy out and said, I'm going to  
3 admit the confession, let the Court of Special Appeals  
4 take care of it. I'm not going to get into that  
5 quagmire. Not Judge Casula. He had an obligation and  
6 he bit the bullet. He ruled that the statement, after  
7 23 hours of nonstop interrogation, especially when the  
8 hospital lawyer wished to see her and wasn't permitted,  
9 was inadmissible.

10           The State was flabbergasted, but they felt they  
11 still were in good shape. They had this incredibly  
12 strong statistical evidence, the fact that these were  
13 three deaths caused by potassium chloride poisoning and  
14 the overwhelming evidence of these other deaths.

15           So the case, again, went to closing argument  
16 and ultimately Judge Casula found Bolding not guilty.  
17 He said, "simply put, the evidence failed to supply the  
18 necessary link that would connect the defendant with the  
19 alleged criminal act. A conviction cannot rest solely  
20 on a statistical study."

21           Well, over most knowledgeable lawyers and  
22 judges knew that he did the right thing; public opinion  
23 and the media were highly critical. He was blasted in  
24 articles and blasted in editorials and even referred to  
25 as, "Let 'Em Go Joe."

1           Now, it's worth noting, though, a book written,  
2 in part, about the Bolding case did not agree with that  
3 popular opinion and called his decision both courageous  
4 and correct. Magistrate Judge Tim Sullivan, who is here  
5 today, was Judge Casula's law clerk during this trial  
6 and he kind of summed it all up when he said it was not  
7 in his DNA to do other than the right thing. As painful  
8 though it was, that's obviously what he did and he never  
9 lost a minute of sleep over that.

10           Now, Judge Casula's judicial career is probably  
11 best summed up by the Washingtonian Magazine. In  
12 September 1996, the Washingtonian Magazine did an  
13 article on local judges. Judge Casula was ranked, "The  
14 best of the bench in Prince George's County." I hasten  
15 to add none of the present judges were on the bench  
16 then. He was also referred to as, "Far and away, the  
17 best liked and most admired judge in Upper Marlboro,"  
18 kind of sums him up.

19           Now, in preparing for this, I thought probably  
20 the best person, the person best able to assess Judge  
21 Casula on the bench in the courtroom is Kathy Cooke.  
22 Now, Kathy served as Judge Casula's courtroom clerk for  
23 13 years.

24           When I called Kathy and asked her to describe  
25 Judge Casula, and I'm going to get tearful, she broke

1 down and she told me he is, "Someone who was given a  
2 gift from God to find the truth and to make things  
3 right." She added, "There's so many things I can say  
4 about this wonderful man. I feel blessed to have known  
5 him."

6 Kathy, you're absolutely right. We are all  
7 blessed to have known him. Thank you.

8 (Applause.)

9 JUDGE MISSOURI: Before I recognize the next  
10 speaker, I'd like to recognize the Chief Judge of the  
11 District Court who's sitting in the front row here,  
12 Judge John P. Morrissey. Welcome, Judge.

13 At this time, we're going to have the  
14 presentation of Andrew W. Dyer. I remember him as he  
15 was the Court Auditor. He's quite a person who is a  
16 pleasure to know him. His son Matt will present on  
17 behalf of his father now.

18 MR. DYER: Judges, members of the Circuit  
19 Court, members of the District Court, distinguished  
20 guests, family and friends, may it please the Court,  
21 welcome. I'm here to talk about Andrew Wynn Dyer, Sr.,  
22 otherwise known as Andy. I'm extremely happy to talk  
23 about my colleague, my mentor, my friend and my father.  
24 Present today with me is my brother Andrew Wynn Dyer,  
25 Jr., otherwise knew as Drew, and Linda Dyer.

1           It's difficult to summarize one's life in so  
2 few words, especially my father's. My father was born  
3 in Washington, D.C. on May 22, 1947. He lived there  
4 with his father Wilfred, his mother Helen, and his  
5 brother Monte on 38th Street in Anacostia.

6           When my dad was born, his father Wilfred, or  
7 Will, was a practicing attorney in Prince George's  
8 County. He had graduated from the National University  
9 Law School in 1939, otherwise known as the George  
10 Washington School of Law.

11           When my father was born, he was living in  
12 Anacostia. My grandfather's practice was in D.C., and  
13 at some point in the '40s, I'm not sure when, he had  
14 moved his office to Silver Hill Road. My grandfather  
15 worked in and out of the Prince George's County  
16 Courthouse here when it was a lot smaller in stature,  
17 but no less of importance, and my father was very  
18 well-known that he worked here amongst many old pictures  
19 and faces that you see on the walls here.

20           In 1954, Andy and his family moved to Clinton,  
21 Maryland. They also spent time in Tracys Landing, which  
22 is in southern Anne Arundel County.

23           After a period of years, they permanently moved  
24 to southern Anne Arundel County in Tracys Landing.  
25 There my father and his brother, they honed their skills

1 and passions for the outdoors and the water. They would  
2 go sailing, fishing, hunting, boating, you name it.  
3 Anything that had to do with the outdoors they did, and  
4 they honed those skills tremendously.

5 I could fill volumes of stories and knowledge  
6 of life of things that he did or I had heard that would  
7 rival the size of War and Peace. Needless to say Andy  
8 was a well-versed man in very many aspects of life.

9 In 1961, Andy attended high school at  
10 Massanutten Military Academy in Woodstock, Virginia.  
11 After graduating as a Class Sergeant in 1965, he  
12 attended Washington College in Chestertown, Maryland.  
13 While attending Washington College, my father became the  
14 founding member of the Crew Team. His passion of the  
15 water and outdoors translated into a club that is now a  
16 nationally ranked Crew Team with the young men and women  
17 that are there now.

18 In 1969, Andy attended the Dickinson School of  
19 Law where he graduated in 1972. During those summers  
20 while he was in law school, as everyone did, you would  
21 clerk for a judge or do something legal. My father was  
22 a title abstractor in this very courthouse running  
23 around learning property law, figuring out deed books  
24 and the like. He enjoyed it tremendously, thus began  
25 his passion for property law. I think anybody who knew

1 my father knew that he loved property law.

2           After he graduated law school, he passed the  
3 bar exam and he began working with my grandfather Will.  
4 They worked at their office in Clinton right off of Old  
5 Branch Avenue. In 1972, Andy moved to Upper Marlboro,  
6 Maryland. My grandfather at this time and my father did  
7 an incalculable number of real estate settlements. The  
8 number I cannot even begin to imagine, but that was  
9 their bread and butter.

10           He branched out into other areas of law --  
11 domestic, civil, criminal, amongst others -- but his  
12 real passion was for real estate property law and estate  
13 law. Although it can be dry and monotonous to others,  
14 he loved it. He enjoyed it and he loved knowing the ins  
15 and outs of every single type of law that had to be done  
16 for property or real estate.

17           In 1994, The Honorable Hovey Johnson appointed  
18 my father as the Court Auditor. Although I was only 14  
19 at the time, my father remembered how excited and  
20 enthusiastic he was for the opportunity to serve in that  
21 capacity. He served in this position until 2011. While  
22 he was still the Court Auditor, he still maintained and  
23 had the time to maintain his law practice as a solo  
24 practitioner.

25           In 2007, Andy moved his law practice from

1 Clinton to Upper Marlboro, Maryland on Main Street. He  
2 was a fixture in this courthouse and on Main Street  
3 during his 42-year career. Andy served as a well-staged  
4 advice for clients, colleagues and most importantly to  
5 me and my brother Drew.

6 Drew followed in our father's footsteps and  
7 graduated from the Dickinson School of Law in 2002. And  
8 it's now known as the Pennsylvania State University  
9 Dickinson School of Law, but that's a long story. Drew  
10 briefly clerked for The Honorable Steven Platt, retired,  
11 during the summers of 2000 and 2001. Drew then passed  
12 the Maryland Bar in 2002 and began working for Blank  
13 Rome in Washington, D.C. He is now Assistant General  
14 Counsel for KPMG.

15 For some reason or another, I also decided to  
16 follow in my father's and brother's footsteps and  
17 graduated from the Dickinson School of Law in 2005.  
18 There was a professor there who, during my father's  
19 third year in 1972, taught him, taught my brother and  
20 then he retired when I graduated in 2005. He had the  
21 privilege to impart wisdom on three Dyer men.

22 I clerked for The Honorable Richard Sothoron  
23 and then joined the firm of McGill and Woolery in 2006  
24 on Main Street where I've remained ever since. You can  
25 say that I followed my grandfather's and father's

1 footsteps as being a country lawyer, whereas Drew wanted  
2 to be a big city lawyer. I guess he never wanted to be  
3 in the courtroom.

4 In 2010, Andy moved back to Tracys Landing from  
5 Upper Marlboro where he lived the last wonderful years  
6 of his life. Andy married the joy of his life,  
7 Ms. Linda, in April of this year.

8 Although Andy was the consummate professional  
9 and mentor, he still maintained his passion for the  
10 outdoors and the water. Although he loved being in the  
11 office, he jumped at any chance to be out on one of his  
12 boats whether it be sailing or boating or fishing.  
13 Rockfish season he would be home.

14 Although it's difficult to remember him in one  
15 or few many words, all I can say is that all the skills  
16 that my brother and I have learned, whether it be  
17 hunting or cooking or fishing or boating or sailing,  
18 woodworking, skiing, the joys of home improvement,  
19 finances, relationships, manners, how to be a gentleman,  
20 amongst other things, we learned through our father.  
21 These skills or attributes were directly taught to us by  
22 him and indirectly seen by us through his daily  
23 mannerisms. As I originally stated, he was a  
24 well-rounded man. You could ask him advice for almost  
25 any subject in life and he'd always have the answer, and



1 set the pace for his younger sister and brother.  
2 Unfortunately for them, he not only set the pace, he  
3 sprinted throughout his life. Obviously it made life  
4 difficult for them.

5           As a youngster, he was involved in many clubs  
6 and organizations. An example of that and his adversity  
7 was that he was involved in the student government and  
8 the football team. Consistent with his personality, Joe  
9 being maybe 5'7" and back in high school maybe weighed  
10 130, 135 pounds, he played an offensive lineman. True  
11 to form, no matter if the odds were seemingly against  
12 him, if he was knocked down, he would just get up and  
13 wipe himself off and get ready for the next play.

14           Now, one would think, well, with Joe being as  
15 small as he is and oftentimes facing the larger  
16 individuals how would he do? How could he do it? Well,  
17 he would persevere sometimes using his wit, sometimes  
18 using his toughness, sometimes just using by any means  
19 possible.

20           That's how he treated life. He would overcome  
21 life and any obstacle he faced in life by any means  
22 necessary. Whether he had to use his wit, whether he  
23 used his brawn or whether he just had to fake it, yet he  
24 always displayed the sportsmanship to help anyone else  
25 that he had knocked down and helped those who may have

1 | been knocked down by others. He was always willing to  
2 | lend a helping hand.

3 |           Joe, or Jeep as he was referred to by his  
4 | family members and closest friends, had a loud, charming  
5 | and persistent personality. Those who knew him  
6 | understand what I mean by loud. He was a captain in the  
7 | Army, 33rd Degree Mason, a life member of Kappa Alpha  
8 | Psi Fraternity, one of the founding fathers of Jay  
9 | Franklin Bourne Association, formerly on the Board of  
10 | Directors of Prince George's County Bar Association, and  
11 | a member of many other clubs and organizations.

12 |           Notwithstanding his commitment to the  
13 | organizations he cherished, he was an excellent lawyer  
14 | who when in the courtroom was a fierce litigator who  
15 | truly understood his role and obligation within the  
16 | courtroom and especially with regards to the well of the  
17 | court. He loved the courtroom because he believed in  
18 | justice for all. He believed that through our system of  
19 | jurisprudence, all individuals could and should obtain  
20 | justice and fairness.

21 |           He believed that the courtroom should be blind  
22 | to color, sex, race, religion, wealth, et cetera, and  
23 | all people should be treated fairly and equally in the  
24 | courtroom. With this in mind, Joe would often represent  
25 | people for free or reduced fees.



1 had the opportunity to work with. So presenting him  
2 will be The Honorable C. Philip Nichols, Jr.

3 JUDGE NICHOLS: Good afternoon, chief judges.  
4 I count four of them. It's got a great ring, Larnzell,  
5 I got to tell you. Administrative Judge Adams, all the  
6 courts here today, all the judges, members of the Bar,  
7 family and friends, indulge me for a second. I'd like  
8 to assure Judge Chasanow that the patient length of stay  
9 at Prince George's Hospital is something that's tracked  
10 very, very carefully in the post Jane Bolding years, not  
11 to mention the fact that our save rate is better than  
12 Maryland Shock Trauma by a whole percentage point, so  
13 don't feel bad.

14 In any event, I remember doing this a couple of  
15 years ago when I was sitting where John Morrissey was  
16 and the late Hal C.V. Claggett, III was going to speak  
17 on behalf of the late Ernest Cory, Jr., and Hal was nice  
18 enough to leave his riding crop home, but he had his  
19 riding boots on and this nice lady leaned over to me,  
20 who I'd never met before, and said, "Boy, you better  
21 have your sitting britches on here today when he gets  
22 started." There was no stopping Hal. Fortunately, my  
23 timeline is about five minutes worth here.

24 Today is the day where we remember our friends  
25 and our colleagues. For me, Bill Parker. It's very

1 hard for me to do this and easy in different respects.  
2 We were close friends from our days as law clerks to the  
3 late Chief Judge Ernest A. Loveless, Jr. He was a man  
4 who meant much to all of us, who led our court and the  
5 judiciary during years of growth and prosperity. We  
6 were smaller, less than half of the complement of the  
7 judges that we have today. It was a different world.

8           As we tell these stories, as Pam said, then the  
9 egg man came one afternoon every week, backed his truck  
10 up to the back door. He sold eggs to all comers;  
11 lawyers, court staff, jurors, anyone who needed eggs.  
12 Well, now the bomb squad shuts this place down.

13           We had two soda machines and we saw each other  
14 often. Now we have a cafeteria for many years run by  
15 our friend Cora, who ran it so well. In fact, Cora was  
16 Bill's client. She had her choice of lawyers in and out  
17 every day, but she picked Bill.

18           Bill was that kind of man and that kind of  
19 lawyer. He had won the respect of all. He had the  
20 common touch of respect no matter who, no matter what.  
21 A lawyer once said of the late Judge Loveless that he  
22 could speak to the meek as well as he could speak to the  
23 mighty. Bill had that same ability.

24           He came to us from Baltimore. He attended the  
25 McDonough Military Academy in Baltimore County. His

1 talents as a baseball player led to All City and All  
2 State Honors.

3 He was a unique man and had the distinction of  
4 success in two separate careers. He loved the Baltimore  
5 Police Department where he was appointed the youngest  
6 Detective Sergeant in its history. He aptly answered  
7 the call of duty for the latest unrest up there because  
8 he was around for the riots way back when. He actually  
9 knew where everything was supposed to go when you had  
10 this kind of trouble. His help was invaluable.

11 While serving on the police department, there  
12 he obtained his Master's and Bachelor's degrees; his  
13 Bachelor's in Business and Accounting, his Master's in  
14 Science and Finance. Shortly thereafter, he obtained  
15 his law degree in 1975. Not long after that, he came to  
16 Prince George's County and clerked for Judge Loveless on  
17 Judge Steve Platt's recommendation.

18 I think the recommendation was Bill was a guy  
19 who ran the tape recorder. So if you missed a class,  
20 you really needed to be Bill's friend because you needed  
21 that tape. In any event, Steve's recommendation carried  
22 the day. Bill was hired.

23 I think he used to bring Judge Loveless a cup  
24 of coffee every day. He couldn't come to grips with the  
25 fact that the guy didn't like coffee. Eventually he

1 stopped.

2           Following the clerkship, he found his place as  
3 a prosecutor in our State's Attorney's Office. His  
4 background as a police detective was invaluable. In  
5 1980, he left the State's Attorney's Office and set up  
6 his office on Main Street. There he stayed through  
7 thick and through thin.

8           He was courageous in his defense of those who  
9 needed it and fair to those seeking justice or redress.  
10 Come to think of it, I think Joe Vallario was his  
11 landlord. He had a handshake deal that lasted 30 years.  
12 Classic lawyers. Never a lease, a handshake.

13           As many of us do, he worked his way through the  
14 chairs to become our leader and our Bar President in  
15 2008. No sooner did his year end when he and Judge Nick  
16 Rattal continued in Bar leadership for what seemed like  
17 an eternity due to some difficulties at the Bar office.  
18 I recollect it was there that we worked so closely  
19 together on a traffic school. I think one of the better  
20 ideas to float around here in awhile, but in any event,  
21 I remember Bill walking to my office to tell me he just  
22 gave our instructor staff a pay raise. I thought it was  
23 time for belt-tightening and a sale, not a raise, but in  
24 the end, it all worked out and it continues to be a  
25 program we can all be proud of.

1 Bill's prize in life was not being President of  
2 the Bar or a prosecutor or the youngest police sergeant  
3 in Baltimore, it was his family. Sometimes we can  
4 measure our success by that of our children. He was  
5 very proud of his daughter, his sons and his eight  
6 grandchildren.

7 There almost never came a time when we did not  
8 speak of his children in my office; my son, the  
9 narcotics detective in North Carolina -- no, the best  
10 narcotics detective in the entire state of North  
11 Carolina -- or my son, the Navy captain who won the  
12 Stockdale Award as the best ship captain in the Navy.  
13 He was later the Military Aide to the Secretary of  
14 State.

15 He wrote the book on terrorism and is an Air  
16 Force Academy graduate who went to sea repeatedly. A  
17 man as comfortable with the U.N. as he was at sea or in  
18 harm's way, or my grandson who took the captain's bars  
19 with him to Afghanistan to earn them there. All were  
20 leaders who earned the respect of those who served with  
21 them, and that will be Bill's legacy to us. Another  
22 generation of America's best. They learned their  
23 lessons well from their father.

24 Along with the family and the many friends,  
25 Bill leaves behind as well as the thousands he

1 represented. We shall all miss him dearly. Thank you.

2 (Applause.)

3 JUDGE MISSOURI: The last person to present  
4 today is someone who walked into the courtroom and  
5 didn't recognize me. I guess it has been quite awhile,  
6 John. So on behalf of Samuel Rensin, a good friend of  
7 all of ours, John Webster, Jr.

8 MR. WEBSTER: Chief Judge Martin,  
9 Administrative Judge Adams, judges of the Circuit Court,  
10 District Court, Court of Appeals, Court of Special  
11 Appeals, Federal bench, colleagues, friends and family  
12 of the recently departed.

13 I want to say that having returned from my  
14 sabbatical at the Worker's Compensation Commission, it  
15 is a privilege and a pleasure to be back in front of all  
16 of you again. I met some of you out in the community.  
17 I missed a lot of you terribly. You have been very kind  
18 to me since I've returned, very patient while I try to  
19 figure out how to try cases again instead of judge cases  
20 again, and God willing I look forward to many more years  
21 together. It's nice to come home almost. My father is  
22 the difficult one to deal with.

23 On a more somber note, I am here to say a few  
24 words on behalf of Samuel K. Rensin. I must confess  
25 that I did not know Sam personally, but I came to know

1 him professionally as he appeared in front of me many  
2 times from 1998 to 2014 while I was sitting in the  
3 Worker's Compensation Commission for the State of  
4 Maryland.

5           The personal information regarding Sam was  
6 supplied by his brother Joseph and his law partner of 18  
7 years, Craig Rosenstein. Sam was the son of Marilyn,  
8 born on May 31st, 1967 in Montgomery County, Maryland.  
9 He attended Northwood High School and upon graduation  
10 attended the University of Maryland in College Park  
11 where he was a radio, television and media maker.

12           Upon completing undergraduate school, he first  
13 went to law school in California and then transferred to  
14 the John Marshall Law Center in Georgia where he  
15 obtained his Juris Doctorate degree in 1992. Sam's  
16 father, Howard Rensin, was a well-known personal injury  
17 attorney in Prince George's County having offices first  
18 in Hyattsville, later in Prince George's Plaza and ended  
19 up on Route 1 in Riverdale.

20           While Sam was in college and went home from law  
21 school, he worked in his father's office alongside his  
22 future partner, Craig Rosenstein. Sam passed the  
23 Maryland Bar in 1995 and went to work in his father's  
24 firm specializing in personal injury and Worker's  
25 Compensation litigation. In 1997 when his father

1 retired, Sam and Craig Rosenstein took over the practice  
2 that came to be known as Rensin and Rosenstein where  
3 they carried on the practice of representing the average  
4 injured man or woman or child for the next 18 years.

5           Sam was passionate about the clients he  
6 represented. He enjoyed representing people who  
7 otherwise might be crushed by the insurance companies or  
8 corporations they were trying to deal with. It was in  
9 this context that I was able to observe Sam when he  
10 practiced before the Worker's Compensation Commission.

11           He was always prepared, rarely asked for a  
12 last-minute continuance, was civil but firm, punctual,  
13 which of course I respected, always put his client's  
14 best interests ahead of his own. His arguments always  
15 made sense, were well thought out and based on the law  
16 and common sense.

17           He was never overreaching and he had a good  
18 sense of what benefits he could realistically obtain for  
19 his clients. I was told by his partner Craig that this  
20 was the way he comported himself in the other areas of  
21 personal injury litigation that he participated in.

22           In addition in keeping with his generous  
23 nature, Sam participated in a significant amount of pro  
24 bono work. He was a court-trained mediator for the  
25 District Court and once a month he helped hundreds of

1 litigants resolve their cases. He also participated in  
2 the mock trial program at DaMatha High School once every  
3 three months where he would play the role of judge and  
4 critique young would-be attorneys on the art of trial  
5 advocacy. Words I would use to describe Sam Rensin  
6 based upon my personal observations of him would be  
7 affable, available, careful, competent, confident,  
8 caring, compassionate, devoted, determined, diplomatic,  
9 fair, friendly, facilitator, giving, generous, tenacious  
10 and wise.

11           Sam left behind his mother and father, two  
12 brothers and a sister. The following was written by his  
13 brother Joseph, which can be found in your announcement  
14 partially. "Sam Rensin was a warm, funny guy and an  
15 extremely generous man. He was a wonderful son,  
16 brother, uncle and friend who is missed so very deeply.  
17 Anyone who came in contact with Sam always remembered  
18 him. Sam was quick on his feet, had a warm and genuine  
19 smile and the rare ability to make you feel as if you  
20 were the only person in the room.

21           "From his office in Riverdale, Sam built a  
22 successful law practice and made a real difference in  
23 the lives of the many thousands of clients that he  
24 worked so hard to help. Tragically, Sam passed away  
25 shortly before his 48th birthday, but he left behind a

1 legacy filled with smiles, accomplishments and warm  
2 thoughts. Though Sam left us far too early, the  
3 wonderful memories we have of him will live on and  
4 forever enrich our lives."

5           There are two anecdotes regarding Sam that  
6 Craig Rosenstein imparted to me that served to  
7 illustrate the generosity of this man. One day in  
8 Riverdale, he saw a car driven by a lady that stalled  
9 and ran out of gas just as it was entering the gas  
10 station on Route 1. Sam, in a suit coat and tie on a  
11 hot muggy day, helped the lady push her car out of the  
12 street into the gas station up to the pump. When she  
13 asked him for a few dollars so that she could get enough  
14 gas to get home, he took out his credit card and filled  
15 up her gas tank and said, make sure you keep gas in your  
16 tank from now on.

17           Craig Rosenstein had two sons who Sam was very  
18 close to. When they each graduated high school, Sam  
19 gave them \$1,000. When Craig told Sam he was being too  
20 kind, Sam's reply was, one can never be too kind. I  
21 certainly concur with that statement.

22           In closing, Sam Rensin left us much too early.  
23 We cannot appreciate his emotional pain at the time of  
24 his departure from this life. It's like trying to  
25 explain to someone after you've lost a parent or a child

1 what it feels like. They can never know and comprehend  
2 the feeling without experiencing the event. So as we  
3 leave today, let's leave with compassion for Sam, his  
4 family and his friends with the hope that his soul is at  
5 peace and is now one with God.

6 I'm honored to have been asked to speak on his  
7 behalf. Thank you very much.

8 (Applause.)

9 JUDGE MISSOURI: That concludes our ceremony.  
10 Before I turn it back over to Judge Adams, we thank  
11 everyone for being here.

12 For all the lawyers, please note that this  
13 celebration of life and memorial happens yearly. Please  
14 remember to put it on your calendar so you can be here  
15 front and center as you are now. So we thank you for  
16 being here. It's entirely proper that we memorialize  
17 our colleagues and we have done so.

18 So, Judge Adams, I move on behalf of the Bar  
19 Association that these remarks be spread upon the  
20 permanent records of the Court, and that copies thereof  
21 be sent to the families of the deceased. Thank you.

22 JUDGE ADAMS: Thank you, Judge Missouri.

23 On behalf of the judges of the Circuit Court,  
24 we are indeed honored to share in this Memorial Service  
25 in conjunction with the Prince George's County Bar

1 Association. Your motion will be accepted and the  
2 records of this proceeding will be spread amongst the  
3 records of the Circuit Court for Prince George's County  
4 and copies will be sent to the Bar Association so they  
5 can be distributed to the families.

6 I understand there is a fellowship following  
7 the service today at the Olde Town Inn. Is that right?

8 JUDGE MISSOURI: Yes, ma'am. The marine has  
9 arranged with Jeff Harding over at the OTI.

10 JUDGE ADAMS: At the Olde Town Inn. So please  
11 join the Bar and the families and come over to the Olde  
12 Town Inn so we continue the fellowship. Thank you.

13 Additionally, I would ask after the  
14 adjournment, I would like all of the resident judges and  
15 retired judges of the Circuit Court please remain in the  
16 courtroom, and I would like the family of Judge Casula  
17 to please come forward.

18 With that, we'll announce the adjournment of  
19 the ceremony. Thank you.

20 (The Memorial Ceremony concluded at 4:53 p.m.)  
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