

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

MEMORIAL SERVICE



Thursday, November 19, 2020
4:00 PM via Zoom

**The Honorable C. Philip Nichols, Senior Judge, Chair
Richard D. London, Esquire, Co-Chair
Memorial Committee**

Appearances:

**The Honorable Sheila R. Tillerson Adams
The Honorable Nicholas E. Rattal
The Honorable John P. Davey
The Honorable Cathy H. Serrette
The Honorable ShaRon M. Grayson Kelsey
Ms. Robin Hadden**

*Honoring Our Colleagues
Who Have Passed
2019—2020*



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PROCEEDINGS

JUDGE TILLERSON ADAMS: On behalf of the Judges of the Circuit Court for Prince George's County we welcome you all to our annual Memorial Service, our joint service partnered with the Prince George's County Bar Association to pause for a minute to give tribute to our members of the Bar who have left us this year.

8 I can't thank the Bar Association enough for making
9 sure that notwithstanding a pandemic, that we made sure that
10 this Memorial Service continue. So at this time I'm going to
11 turn the program over to our president, President Gutierrez
12 to give opening remarks for our Memorial Service.

13 MS. GUTIERREZ: Good afternoon, everyone. I have
14 the honor to serve as the president of one of the best Bar
15 Associations in the country. And I am grateful to have the
16 privilege of helping to commemorate the lives of members of
17 our Bar Association that we lost this year.

18 Judge Adams, thank you for convening us here
19 today, for convening us for the last ten years, and for your
20 consistent, constant, and unwavering support of the Bar
21 Association.

22 I want to thank Judge Nichols who yet again has
23 stepped up to serve our Bar Association by volunteering to
24 preside over today's service, a task that one of today's
25 honorees, Judge Femia took on for a number of years. We know

1 that you have big shoes to fill but we're confident that
2 you'll lead this service with the kindness and excitement of
3 which you presided over in your courtroom.

4 And I want to thank all the Members who have
5 joined us here tonight. We are grateful to have each of you
6 here. We are grateful to have the family members who have
7 also joined us here and who have shared the honorees that we
8 honor tonight for a number of years. Thank you for sharing
9 your loved ones with us.

10 This year we remember an exceptional jurist, Judge
11 Femia, an attorney who left us far too early at the age of
12 34, Jacque Oudia, a trooper who turned sheriff who turned
13 lawyer, Don Ansell, the attorney who began her legal career
14 at almost 50, Natalie Boehm, a sports history buff and our
15 now horseshoe pitching champion T. Summers Gwynn, an attorney
16 who took on Giant Foods, James Hopewell, an attorney who
17 never met a stranger, Lou Martucci, and a Maryland Delegate,
18 Lansdale Sasscer.

19 But each one of these attorneys we honor today and
20 left a hole in our legal community and in their loved ones'
21 hearts we are grateful for the moments that we shared and the
22 lessons that they taught us to help fill that hole. We'll
23 hear about some of those moments and those lessons today as
24 each honoree is eulogized by a speaker selected by the
25 honoree's family.

1 Attorneys are often the butt of jokes, but the men
2 and women we honor today tell us another story. Their lives,
3 their character, their practice are what great novels are
4 made of. Each year we gather to remember our friends and our
5 colleagues who left us, and it never gets easier to imagine
6 our legal community without them in it.

7 The few moments that we dedicate to each attorney
8 tonight are not enough to capture the impact that they had in
9 our lives, the lives of their family, their friends, and
10 their community.

11 But as the author and neuroscientist David
12 Eagleman shared, death does not truly occur until your name
13 is spoken for the last time. And if that is true each of the
14 attorneys we remember today will live on forever.

15 So, thank you again for joining us tonight.

16 JUDGE TILLERSON ADAMS: At this time we'll turn it
17 over to Judge Nichols.

18 JUDGE NICHOLS: Thank you. Chief Judge Adams,
19 Members of the Bench, Members of the Bar, Members of our
20 families, welcome.

21 This marks the first time taht we have attempted
22 to do something that important to us by Zoom, and it is. So,
23 please bear with us. We think we have it all worded out, but
24 before I introduce everyone I need to say a special thanks to
25 Robin Hadden, our executive director and Richard London, our

1 vice-chair for putting this together. Lisette DuPree was
2 excellent in providing the IT services that we needed to make
3 this thing happen.

4 It's a difficult job. It's a hard job, and there
5 is a lot of research that goes into it, but it all kind of
6 comes together for us, and it has in past years. It's going
7 to come together this afternoon.

8 Having said that, let me call upon the President
9 Emeritus of the Maryland State Senate, the Honorable Thomas
10 V. "Mike" Miller to speak on behalf of Don E. Ansell,
11 Esquire. Senator?

12 SENATOR MILLER: Thank you very much. I will be
13 very brief. I looked over the biography and quite frankly it
14 was excellent. So, I am going to talk about some things that
15 are not contained in the biography. I'm talking about Don
16 Ansell.

17 Don Ansell, if you met him right now you would
18 think that this guy is a country bumpkin. He's got a cowboy
19 belt buckle on. He's got on his cowboy boots. He's got on a
20 bolo tie. And he is talking to you. And if you continue to
21 think he is country, in about two months he'll have picked
22 your pocket.

23 I divide them up into different categories. Like,
24 Dunkin Joe Vallario and others like myself we come from big
25 families. We come from big families. We raised big

1 families.

2 I like to think of him, I knew him from one
3 category I liked the best as a Prince George's County Boys
4 and Girls Club activist. Things you wouldn't know about him,
5 he was a black belt in karate.

6 He had more than half a school of grandchildren,
7 children and grandchildren. Devoted to his wife of 58 years
8 and this was his family. And so, that's one side of him.

9 The other side of him which I liked very much, he
10 was a State Trooper. You wouldn't know that from looking at
11 him but he was a Maryland State Trooper except when you saw
12 him in uniform. When you saw him in uniform he was all
13 polish. Leather was shining, the brass was shining. You
14 knew he spoke with authority.

15 And in addition, he had a role in 1969, some of us
16 were put groups together. Well, anyway, in 1969 we recruited
17 him to be the Sheriff of Prince George's County. He had
18 grown up here. He ahd and gone to groups in Morningside. He
19 went to school in D. C., but then he went to Prince George's
20 Community College, A. U., and the University of Baltimore
21 School of Law. And so, we thought he would be a great
22 candidate for Sheriff, and he was.

23 He did a good job trying to change the Sheriff,
24 trying to create a department of corrections, trying to find
25 the officers because up until that point in time the Sheriff

1 had the same thing that they had in common law England. It
2 was a very difficult job.

3 Anyway he went back to the private practice of law
4 in 1983. He was loved by his clients, loved by the people
5 that he represented. And he did a great job. As Matthew
6 would say, good, well done, oh good and faithful servant.
7 Thank you very much.

8 JUDGE NICHOLS: Thank you, Senator Miller.

9 The Honorable Robert W. Heffron, Judge of the
10 District Court of Maryland will speak on behalf of Natalie M.
11 Boehm, Esquire.

12 JUDGE HEFFRON: Good afternoon, everyone. Natalie
13 was not only a frequent litigant in my Court I considered her
14 a close friend. She was born here in Prince George's County
15 on March 10th of 1951. And she passed away at age 69 on July
16 22nd, 2020, unfortunately far sooner than any of us would
17 have liked to have seen.

18 She spent her life trying to be more. She wanted
19 to overcome other people's perceptions of her, her business
20 perceptions, her own perceptions. And every day she
21 struggled to be better than she was the day before.

22 She felt that her lack of having a college degree
23 was holding her back, so she decided to go to school. She
24 went to U. M. U. C. at night and graduated in 1995.

25 But that wasn't enough for her. She decided she

1 needed to get a law degree, so she tackled that with the same
2 enthusiasm and drive that she brought to every case that she
3 ever appeared with me on behalf of a client.

4 She graduated in 1999 with her J. D., and the very
5 next calendar year she passed the Bar and was admitted to the
6 practice of law.

7 She was a mainstay here in the District Court of
8 Prince George's County. And it's almost embarrassing to say
9 that if you were to quiz Natalie, she could have named every
10 single employee. Whether they sat at the counter or they sat
11 at the back of the office she knew everyone. She made it her
12 business to know. She made it her business to become a
13 friend of everyone because that's just who she was.

14 Along the way she started at one point working at
15 Avis Truck Rentals, and she was a clerk where she checked in
16 the trucks. And it just goes to show you the drive that she
17 possessed, because at one point she asked the supervisor
18 whether or not she could take the rigs as they were returned
19 and park them because they were just sitting out front and
20 nobody was taking the time or effort to get things done.
21 Natalie was told, no. A women can't drive a big rig.

22 Within six months of that statement Natalie had
23 acquired her C. D. L. and was actually then the very first
24 woman to be hired by Giant Food to operate a tractor trailer.
25

1 When she was at Giant Food she encountered a bit of
2 discrimination there as well, and she eventually had to file
3 a gender discrimination suit which for confidentiality
4 reasons she was never able to fully disclose. But I will
5 tell everyone it settled on the courthouse steps, and if you
6 saw Natalie and brought it up, you would see the huge smile
7 on her face regarding the outcome.

8 She also started her own business called Care
9 Couriers that did paper deliveries for attorneys and small
10 package deliveries. To show you what kind of person Natalie
11 was, in that particular line of work she was approached by a
12 larger firm and was told they needed a woman owned business
13 to act as a front, as a face for them so that they could
14 deliver papers to your local metro. Natalie refused if she
15 wasn't going to do the work. They just wanted to hire her
16 and do the work themselves. She said, if you want to hire
17 me, I'm doing the work. And that's the kind of person she
18 was.

19 I'll say this. She was a devoted wife and loved
20 husband Ken. Ken and Natalie were married for 46 years.
21 They were both deeply involved in the Prince George's County
22 Bar Association. And in fact it was on a Bar Association
23 trip to the Virgin Islands where they determined that they
24 would tie the knot. And on a trip with the Bar Association
25 Members, she got married to Ken.

1 Again, I just want to emphasize to everybody that
2 this was one of the most strong willed determined people you
3 would ever meet in your life. And she never had any ill will
4 towards anyone. She was thrilled with the outcome of her
5 degree, thrilled to practice law with Ken for 20 years, and
6 it was a pleasure, an honor, and a privilege to know her.

7 Thank you.

8 JUDGE NICHOLS: The Honorable Joseph F. Vallario,
9 Jr., the former Chair of the Maryland House Judiciary
10 Committee to speak on behalf of my predecessor in this job,
11 The Honorable Vincent J. Femia. Joe?

12 MR. VALLARIO: Vincent J. Femia, Judge Vincent J.
13 Femia, my good friend for many, many, many years. I have
14 known him for 50 years.

15 Actually I knew him when he was working as a law
16 clerk for, believe it or not, Leonard Collins. Not the
17 Leonard Collins you know but the father of Leonard Collins,
18 the State's Attorney from Charles County. And he was also
19 Judge Femia's professor in the law school.

20 Now, Judge Femia was born in 1936. He spent one
21 year while he was in high school as a Christian Brother in
22 the Washington area. Then, he returned to Pennsylvania and
23 graduated from high school. He also was in the Air Force for
24 a period of time. He worked in the F. B. I.

25 This man covered more ground in the 84 years that

1 he was present on the Earth with us, and he made more friends
2 with people. And the word Femia, just the word Femia,
3 everybody knows what that was, especially in Prince George's
4 County.

5 He probably handled more cases than any other
6 Judge around. He was on the Bench for 24 years. He first
7 got appointed in 1972 in the District Court. And then in
8 1977 he went to the Circuit Court, for a total of years on
9 the Bench, a total of 47 years when you count the time that
10 he did since his retirement.

11 I might add when going through the resume on him,
12 I looked at it. It said he retired in 1996. And he retired
13 in 1996? That must be a misprint. That's a mistake. He
14 just retired about ten years ago and then started to sit.

15 No, he sat for 24 years. After he did 24 years on
16 the Bench he sat for 23 years after that.

17 So, he was one of the first Judges to say, I am 62
18 years of age. I'm going to retire. I spent my 24 years on
19 the Bench. He collected his retirement, and he also sat as a
20 Judge after that. Everybody said, well, that was pretty
21 remarkable. That was pretty smart on his part.

22 In 1962 he ran for the Treasurer of Prince George's
23 County. Prince George's County had a treasurer, believe it
24 or not. I don't know if any other county did, but they did.
25 And we had one, and he ran on the theory that they ought to

1 abolish the job. He wasn't elected, but the job was
2 abolished eventually.

3 He then was hired by Bud Marshall. This might
4 surprise you. It surprised me. Bud Marshall was the first
5 full time State's Attorney. Before that, the State's
6 Attorneys for Prince George's was part time.

7 And then he hired three lawyers. And the three
8 lawyers he hired was Femia, Chasanow, now and Judge Taylor.
9 All three became Judges and eventually became Judges, but
10 those were the three Judges that were hired.

11 His original home was in Forest Heights where he
12 stayed from 1963 to 1974. Now, you talk about a man to learn
13 and being able to do anything. He built his own home. He
14 bought ground in Accokeek, Maryland, and went out, got the
15 contractors, and did everything himself. He built it
16 himself. He hired the first contractor. He hired the
17 plumber. He hired the stone masons. He did all the work,
18 and he got that house built and he stayed there since 1974 to
19 the present time.

20 He taught school. He taught at Charles at the
21 community college. He taught law.

22 He did tax returns. For the people that didn't
23 know he was a C. P. A.. When he first came here he was a C.
24 P. A., Certified Public Accountant. He went to George
25 Washington, graduated, became a C. P. A. and then decided to

1 become a lawyer, and he went to law school after that.

2 He became a lawyer, and that's where he met Len
3 Collins. And then from there, he came to Prince George's
4 County. He married Elizabeth Bell, and they had three
5 wonderful children. They lived in the metropolitan area.
6 They all time stayed in Prince George's County. Of course
7 one of them now since he became an adult is no longer in
8 Prince George's County but in South Carolina, North Carolina.

9 But in any event he did a great job. But thinking
10 of the things that he had done in all these 84 years, he was
11 a teacher. He loved the theater, and he played parts in the
12 theater. He was part of an amateur type theater group. He
13 did that for a while. He was a baker. He was a gardener.
14 He grew a fig tree that grew up the side of his chimney.
15 Next to his chimney it was a 20 foot tall tree. Nobody could
16 believe it, but he did all of these things including he made
17 his own beer.

18 I mean, he was a person that would venture into
19 anything. And he did things, like, he loved Classical music.

20 And one time I honestly think I saw the fellow
21 more than twice, but I saw his brother. His brother was --
22 if anybody ever saw him and I'm not sure if any of you all
23 ever saw him, but he looked identical to Vincent Femia. You
24 couldn't tell them apart if you saw them together. Believe
25 me when I tell you they just looked the same together.

1 I might also point out that he for a number of
2 years -- and I couldn't figure out how many years it was --
3 did run this particular Memorial Service some time before in
4 the last probably 20 years. He probably did about ten years
5 of the Memorial Service. I'm not sure.

6 I had the opportunity of spending a night in jail
7 with him and when the jail was brand new. We all got in.
8 Everybody got in. Not everybody but all the Judges were -

9 JUDGE NICHOLS: Six minutes.

10 MR. VALLARIO: Oh, I'm that far in? Okay.

11 We spent a night in jail. Thank you for reminding
12 me. He also liked cross word puzzles, Classical music, a
13 night in jail with me. He was best known for the rocket
14 docket and his menu, the Femia menu. And the biggest smile I
15 saw on his face was about a year ago somebody mentioned to
16 him that Montgomery County was looking at Femia's menu to
17 determine whether that would be a good for them to use over
18 there.

19 All I can say with him, until we meet again. He
20 was a great guy, and someday I hope I will grow up to be like
21 him. Thank you very much for the opportunity.

22 JUDGE NICHOLS: Thank you. Richard Daniels,
23 Esquire on behalf of T. Summers Gwynn, III, Esquire.

24 MR. DANIELS: Good afternoon. Summers was born
25 and raised in Clinton, Maryland, one of four children of

1 Tommy and Laticia Gwynn.

2 Summers and I first met when I was in junior high
3 school. My brother Jim used to date his cousin Sally.

4 Now, while attending Surrattsville High School,
5 Summers had a job with his pal Pat O'Connell cooking
6 hamburgers at Mr. H.'s Hamburgers in Clinton, Maryland.

7 Well, Pat went on to own and operate the Michelin star Inn At
8 Little Washington. Summers would tell you that he was the
9 one who helped Pat get his start in the restaurant business.

10 Now, after graduating from Surrattsville High
11 Summers got a job searching titles at the courthouse. He
12 continued to search titles throughout his college years at
13 Mount St. Mary's and throughout law school at Catholic
14 University that he attended at night. He and I searched
15 titles during that period working for different attorneys.

16 Now, mind you, those were the days when you
17 actually went to the courthouse to search titles. You didn't
18 sit in your living room with your pajamas on and your laptop
19 on you lap searching titles. And the record office was a
20 wonderful place to work. Summers would tell you that he
21 probably learned more about the law and the land records
22 office than in law school in addition to meeting many fine
23 lawyers who worked there.

24 Up to the end of his life Summers was concerned
25 about the efficacy of electronic recording and what that

1 might do to the practice of real estate law.

2 Now, Summers was by my side on my wedding day.

3 His job was to get me to the church. Well, he woke up that
4 morning, and there was snow in the weather forecast. So, he
5 ran out and got snow tires for his car. That's the sort of
6 fellow that he was.

7 Now, we searched the titles and practiced law off
8 and on together since the late sixties. We were practicing
9 together again prior to his last illness. Summers' practice
10 was limited to real estate matters and a lot of testimony as
11 an expert witness.

12 Now, the conversations with Summers were always
13 the same when he saw you. Hey, Bud, is there anything I can
14 do to help? Thank you. Always good to see you. He was
15 always good to see everyone.

16 Summers was a true Southern Marylander. His roots
17 go back to the Middletons in the 1600's. He loved his
18 cottage down on Broomes Island surrounded by other Gwynns,
19 the Machins, the Oslers, and Ernie Loveless' place was just a
20 stone's throw away.

21 Now, it's getting near Thanksgiving, and around
22 Thanksgiving Summers always talked about how his family would
23 often have a large stuffed Rockfish for Thanksgiving rather
24 than turkey. And I think of that every Thanksgiving.

25 Summers was a man who loved family and friends,

1 especially his three sisters and his son Andrew and also his
2 Aunt Lucille, Dave Gwynn. Dave his uncle and also another
3 real estate lawyer.

4 Summers was a thankful man. One of Summers'
5 favorite stories to tell was about the time he got to dance
6 with Elizabeth Taylor. Now, I will tell you Summers doesn't
7 dance with Elizabeth now, but I guarantee that he is dancing
8 with the Angels. Summers will be solely missed. Thank you,
9 Your Honor.

10 JUDGE NICHOLS: Ann Gaegler, Esquire on behalf of
11 James B. Hopewell, Esquire.

12 MS. GAEGLER: I first met Jim when I was in high
13 school, and he came into my father's office. He was about
14 three years out of law school. He went to the University of
15 Baltimore Law School, and he had worked at the Human Rights
16 Commission and for Leo Green, Sr. But really what he wanted
17 to do more than anything was to be a trial attorney.

18 And so, that's why he came to work with my father
19 actually as a partner for a while when they just shared
20 office shared. But when he came in he had already started
21 the mustache, because Jim always had a problem of looking too
22 young. And he didn't think that was the right look for a
23 trial attorney. So, he had blonde hair, and so he eventually
24 started growing his hair to try to make himself look older
25 because he kind of had a baby face.

1 But the three things that when I think of Jim,
2 what I particularly think of is he was a fighter, he was very
3 passionate, and he was generous.

4 And he had the right stuff to be a trial attorney.
5 He was scrappy. He grew up in New Jersey. He lost his
6 father when he still a toddler. His mother who had a college
7 education never got the break she should have with her
8 education because that was a time when women weren't given
9 their due, and he saw that growing up. He grew up in a very
10 working class neighborhood, and he had a real passion for
11 fighting for people.

12 That started when he got out of the military, and
13 he was attending the University of Maryland, and he was an
14 activist. He got arrested several times and in that pursuit,
15 and he never stopped fighting for people. And that's what
16 led him to become a trial attorney I believe. I never asked
17 him that question directly, but he was very passionate.

18 And when people would call him on the phone and
19 ask him how are you doing, he always says, I'm fighting for
20 truth and justice. And he really meant that. It wasn't just
21 a tag line. He really meant that.

22 And he really liked people. He connected just
23 like some of the other people we're memorializing. Really,
24 anybody he met, even my clients, he would talk to them. He
25 was a real talker.

1 And if you knew Jim Hopewell, you knew he had
2 stories. And you heard probably a number of his stories.

3 But as a lawyer, he really knew how to hit on
4 public policy, and he always said you lead with your
5 strengths, and that was really his strength was arguing
6 public policy.

7 He and I once worked on a Court of Appeals case,
8 and so we split the writing of a brief. He did the public
9 policy part, something I've never been good at. And I hit
10 the law. And I said, listen, Jim. We've got it on the law.
11 He goes, nope.

12 But when he did the oral arguments, he led with
13 the public policy. He did such a good job, but because of
14 the strength of the law, he was up there about halfway
15 through. He didn't have one small question, and he got this
16 look on his face I have never seen before. He just ran out
17 of things to say. And so, finally halfway through he said,
18 hum, thank you very much. I'm going to end the remarks. And
19 of course we won the case, but it's the only time I have ever
20 seen Jim speechless.

21 And the third thing as an attorney is he was very
22 generous. He was generous with his time and resources, not
23 just for his own clients but for anybody who called or came
24 into the office, even if they didn't have the resources to
25 hire him he would sit and give them free legal advice.

1 And he also took on a number of clients who really
2 could not afford an attorney or could only pay part of his
3 fee, and he just never thought about it. You know, it's
4 something you don't see quite so much anymore, but he always
5 had time for people.

6 And in conclusion I think we have lost an attorney
7 who really knew how to give service to his clients and to the
8 citizens of the State. Thank you very much.

9 JUDGE NICHOLS: Joseph J. Gigliotti, Esquire for
10 Louis J. Martucci, Esquire.

11 MR. GIGLIOTTI: Thank you, Your Honor. May it
12 please the Court, I am here to first of all say a few words
13 about Lou Martucci and also to thank his wife Nancy and his
14 sons Brian, Stephen, and his grandchildren Skylar and Zoey.
15 He loved them very much. I mean, that was his primo focus in
16 life.

17 Lou graduated from Villanova coming from Brooklyn
18 and then Floral Park, New York where he actually started as a
19 pianist with a band called the Villanovans. And he stuck
20 with those guys all the way through his illness. He played
21 every summer at the Toms River Yacht Club. These guys
22 played.

23 As you may know, Lou, an excellent pianist
24 Classical and Jazz, played for the Bar Follies and the
25 Christmas Follies for the Bar. He loved to play the piano.

1 In fact, he told me that he probably would have preferred to
2 be a concert pianist, but his father told him forget about
3 it. And so, he went on to U. V. Law School after Villanova,
4 always playing the piano on the side.

5 And he came here to the Washington area, to Prince
6 George's County frankly after U. V. He started at the State
7 Department, but then he wanted to do trial work and he got a
8 job as an Assistant State's Attorney prosecuting cases of
9 course and then came out and went into private practice where
10 he had been for many, many years.

11 And Lou, although he was a criminal defense
12 attorney he knew about the entire society of the courthouse.
13 He wrote an article or articles in the late nineties for the
14 Prince George's Sentinel under the heading of Justice
15 Matters. Judge Platt was one of his co-correspondents. They
16 went back and forth.

17 And one of the articles I read is called, Is This
18 Sick Rage We See As A Part Of Our Sick Society? And he was
19 talking about the Clinton / Monica Lewinsky scandal. Lou
20 essentially said it was a minor blip when you think about the
21 murder cases that we have and the rape cases. And he talked
22 about one of his own cases and said, it doesn't matter about
23 Clinton's peccadilloes. These are the problems that we have
24 in this society. And this is Lou as a defense attorney
25 saying this.

1 He knew about people. Lou loved people. He loved
2 people from the cleaning woman in the courthouse to the
3 Bench. And I think that that was probably why when Lou would
4 try a case -- and my experience with Lou is I have done
5 several federal cases with him. He was not afraid to try a
6 case.

7 You know, a lot of federal defendants, they feel
8 that the lawyers want them to cop or co-op, cop a plea or
9 cooperate. But Lou wasn't afraid of that. And even in the
10 face of these huge federal penalties he was willing to put
11 shoulder to the wheel, and that's what I appreciated about
12 him. And I think the Prince George's County Bench and Bar
13 knew that about Lou.

14 In closing, I would like to say that Lou, besides
15 his piano he loved to boat, to ski, to travel. He liked fast
16 cars. He liked to dress in finery, but he always knew that
17 humanity was the common denominator, even with juries or with
18 prosecutors, with police officers. And I think that it was
19 evident, because at his funeral - and Paul Eason, Magistrate
20 Eason said this to me, and I think he was right. He said it
21 was very notable at Lou's Funeral Mass that we had
22 prosecutors. We had police officers. We had Members of the
23 Bar. We had business people, and we had colleagues.

24 Lou was a man of great heart, of great zeal, and
25 of great love not only for the family but for the law and for

1 the music. And we will certainly miss him. Thank you, Your
2 Honor.

3 JUDGE NICHOLS: Laura Hoogendoorn, Esquire for
4 Jacqueline B. Oudia, Esquire.

5 MS. HOOGENDORN: Good afternoon, thank you. My
6 name is Laura. I had the privilege of working with Jacque
7 down in Charles County. We met in early 2019 when she came
8 to La Plata and she began to serve as an Assistant State's
9 Attorney for Charles County.

10 Jacque was strong-willed. She's tenacious and
11 brilliant. And the very first thing that I thought when I
12 met her was I'm going to learn a lot from this person.

13 No matter the question Jacque had a tenacious
14 spirit of finding what the solution should be. And no matter
15 what issue she faced, Jacque had a passionate spirit for
16 seeking justice in the most difficult situations.

17 Jacque's first and foremost instinct as a
18 prosecutor was a just, ethical, and fair outcome. She
19 prosecuted incredibly difficult cases with the utmost grace.

20 All that being said, Jacque was so much more than
21 just a brilliant trial attorney. She was a kind hearted and
22 faithful friend. And it never felt to me like it ever
23 mattered how busy she was or how much she had going on.
24 Somehow Jacque always knew exactly what you needed, and she
25 would meet you there. She always was willing to take time

1 out of her day to stop and have a conversation or go to lunch
2 and spend time with people. And she was dearly loved by our
3 office because of that.

4 Jacque was also incredibly witty. She never failed
5 to make you laugh. And any conversation you had with her was
6 filled with her bold and bright sense of humor. Jacque had
7 an infectious laugh and so much so that you couldn't help but
8 feeling the joy that she held.

9 Jacque made every single day at our office just a
10 little bit brighter. There is no way we could ever replace
11 the presence that she had in our office. All that being
12 said, Jacque inspired everyone around her to live
13 passionately. She was never one to sit idly by and face a
14 problem dealing with injustice. Jacque was never afraid to
15 try a case. Jacque was never bullied, and Jacque always
16 stood up for the things she believed in with again an intense
17 passion and incredible grace.

18 She challenged everybody around her to live in the
19 same way that she does with the desire not to see the world
20 as it is but also to shape it into what it could be.

21 We remember her not only for her accomplishments
22 which she had very many accomplishments, but we remember her
23 for the ways in which she challenged all of us to work hard
24 to strive to make things even when it was difficult or
25 uncomfortable.

1 We were all incredibly privileged to know Jacque,
2 and we miss her terribly. The presence she brought to the
3 legal community can never be replaced, and we thank you for
4 being here today to honor her presence.

5 JUDGE NICHOLS: The Honorable James P. Salmon,
6 Senior Judge, Court of Special Appeals.

7 JUDGE SALMON: I was so happy to be asked by Phil
8 to speak for Gus Sasscer. He was my friend for more than 50
9 years, and he was my mentor as a lawyer when I first started
10 with his law firm.

11 He was part of what's called the Greatest
12 Generation, because he served in the Military during the
13 Second World War. He was born in 1926, and I think he is the
14 second oldest Member when he died in April, the second oldest
15 Member of our Bar Association. Al Blackwell as far as I know
16 is the only one that was older.

17 He had a long and very distinguished career. He
18 spent his whole life in Upper Marlboro. For the most part,
19 he lived here on Osborne Road at his farm which was called
20 Solitude which is in Upper Marlboro right near the Post
21 Office. If you're going down Main Street you can see a white
22 fence around it. It's a very nice old house, and he lived
23 there for a long, long time.

24 And there should be a little historical marker
25 there at the house, because Gus never danced with Elizabeth

1 Taylor, but he did know Jack Kennedy. And when Kennedy was
2 in the primaries running for President he needed a place to
3 stay during campaigning, and he stayed there at the Sasscer
4 house.

5 And when Gus was alive there was pictures of Gus
6 with J. F. K. which Gus always was a good Democrat. And he
7 was a good friend of Joe Tydings. He was his roommate in law
8 school.

9 Now Gus played on the baseball team in Upper
10 Marlboro High School. He always said that they won almost
11 every game when he played at second base. And the reason
12 they won was because Ray Moore, who later became a Big League
13 pitcher for the Brooklyn Dodgers, Los Angeles Angels, and the
14 Orioles, played for about 15 years, whenever he pitched
15 nobody got any runs. So, they were a very, very successful
16 team just because of Ray Moore. Ray Moore was born down in
17 Croom.

18 Gus, as soon as he got out of high school when he
19 was 17 in 1943 he joined the Coast Guard and served till
20 1946. And when he was discharged he went to the University
21 of Virginia, and he was on an accelerated program there where
22 you could finish your first year of law school while you were
23 finishing up your B. A. there at Virginia. So, he got a head
24 start on law school and then transferred to the University of
25 Maryland where he graduated in 1952.

1 He was roommates at law school with Joe Tydings,
2 and they were life long friends.

3 Then he started practicing in the law firm that his
4 father had founded, Congressman Sasscer, and he practiced
5 there in the law firm from 1952 for about 50 years.

6 And the first was Sasscer, Clagett, and Powers and
7 then it was Sasscer, Clagett, Channing, and Bucher. During
8 that time, when I was there from about '69 till '88, Gus'
9 office was right across from mine. And he was the best
10 friend to have. He was very polite. He was very helpful to
11 me as a new lawyer, and he practiced insurance defense law.
12 He also was very, very helpful to people that needed a lawyer
13 to help them out on things. Sometimes he would not charge
14 the people only because he was a gentleman and was always
15 looking out for people that didn't have anything.

16 Jurors could sense that he was just a very honest
17 and very nice guy. And they could just tell that, and he was
18 very successful as a trial lawyer. And I can say this with a
19 hundred per cent assurance, that I never knew anybody that
20 had a case against Gus that when they left that they weren't
21 friendly with him and that he always left on good terms and
22 just was a true gentleman and a professional great for the
23 profession.

24 Then beside being I think a very, very good lawyer,
25 he was very busy in other things. He was the president of

1 Brandywine Bank. He was the co-publisher of the Enquirer
2 Gazette. He was president of the Lyons Club, their farm club
3 called Advanced Goat Farmers, and a whole lot of things that
4 I could name that he was in charge of just as a citizen. He
5 also was active in his church.

6 And I want to add this. He really had a fun side,
7 too. When I was practicing with him, he and his wife had a
8 deal that he could every Saturday, for one Saturday a month I
9 should say, he was able to go out during the daylight hours
10 and do whatever he wanted as long as it was legal. And he
11 wouldn't have to answer to anybody. And like, one day I saw
12 him whizzing by on a motorcycle. So, he had more to him than
13 just as a businessman and as a lawyer.

14 Unfortunately because of the pandemic I wasn't
15 able to go to his funeral. That's why I'm so glad that I was
16 able to speak for him today. But if he had had a funeral it
17 would have been just jam-packed because he had so many
18 friends in the community and he was respected as a lawyer and
19 respected as a businessman and just as an all-around good
20 citizen of the Town of Upper Marlboro.

21 He was married for 64 years to his wife Anne who
22 survived him, and they had three children, Becky or Rebecca,
23 Molly and then, another Anne. So, they had the three
24 children and they had I forgot how many grandchildren and two
25 great-grandchildren and a lot of nieces and nephews.

1 Some of them are attorneys that you know. One of
2 them is Al Sidney Clagett who also practices in Upper
3 Marlboro. So, he is survived by all those. And anyway,
4 we'll really miss Gus, and he was I think one of the true
5 gentlemen of our Prince George's Bar Association.

6 JUDGE NICHOLS: Thank you, Jim.

7 Chief Judge Adams, this marks the first time in
8 memory that we were actually able to finish on time. There
9 were a lot of matters that played into this. We told the
10 speakers that this is not exactly a Presidential debate, and
11 we have the ability to mute your microphones if this went too
12 far.

13 All right. Before I make the motion that we always
14 make each year I want to once again thank Robin, Lisette, and
15 Richard London for all that they did to put this together.
16 This is a major undertaking as I said. And this is the tip
17 of the iceberg, and it's really good that we get to do it.

18 When I was a law clerk and clerked for Judge
19 Loveless who was the twelfth Chief Judge of our circuit he
20 insisted that we do this. And I listened, and I learned a
21 great deal. We all learn a great deal about our friends and
22 colleagues and their relative contributions to making life in
23 our county and our state and our country a much better place.

24 Having said that, Chief Judge Adams, I would now
25 move on behalf of the Prince George's County Bar Association

1 that copies of these Memorials be spread upon the records of
2 this Court and the copies of those Memorials be sent to the
3 families. Thank you.

4 JUDGE TILLERSON ADAMS: That motion will be
5 granted.

6 On behalf of my colleagues and particularly the
7 ones sitting with me today, Judge Serrette, Judge Rattal,
8 Judge Davey, and Judge Kelsey, I think we will unanimously
9 grant that motion, and all of the Memorials will be spread
10 amongst the records of the Court and copies will be sent to
11 the families.

12 I would like to add one other thing. What has
13 become traditional with the Circuit Court, whenever there is
14 a departed Member of the Bench, I will note that we have
15 flown a flag over the courthouse in honor of Vince Femia, and
16 that flag too will be sent to his family in honor of the
17 many years he spent in this courthouse.

18 It is indeed an honor to be a part of this
19 ceremony. This is the legal history of our county. When you
20 sit through a Memorial Service you hear not only the legal
21 work of the brilliant lawyers that have worked in this county
22 but you hear about the person, their lives, what they have
23 contributed to the community. And it's all a part of this
24 dynamic group, the Prince George's County Bar Association.

25 So, to our President Gutierrez, Senior Judge

1 Philip Nichols, and the Judges of the Circuit Court, Orphans'
2 Court, District Court, to our Director Robin Hadden and
3 Members of the Bar, friends, and most importantly today the
4 families of our departed Members we thank you for spending
5 this time with us this evening in paying tribute to our
6 departed Members.

7 So, with that we will adjourn this ceremony, and I
8 thank you for your participation. Thank you.

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22 Margaret Reams Miller
23 Official Court Reporter
24 The Circuit Court for Prince George's County, Maryland
25 Upper Marlboro, Maryland