

**A RESOLUTION OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
IN MEMORY OF THOMAS FINUCANE**

WHEREAS, the members of the Franklin County Bar Association met in a Special Meeting this nineteenth day of October, 2026, to celebrate the life and honor the memory of our colleague and fellow member, THOMAS “TOM” FINUCANE, who passed away October 2, 2026; and

WHEREAS, although saddened by his death, it is our desire, and the tradition of the Franklin County Bar Association, to share our recollections of Tom and honor him with a Memorial Resolution at this Special Meeting; and

WHEREAS, before offering this Resolution, the members of the Franklin County Bar Association desire to offer a brief record of his life and career.

Tom was born in August 1941 in Upper Darby, Pennsylvania, the son of Thomas and Helen Finucane. He is survived by his wife of 39 years, Susan, as well as four children, Thomas, Eileen, Brendan, and Sean. He is preceded in death by his son Daniel Finucane. His siblings are James Finucane, Michael Finucane, Brendan Finucane, and Eileen Finucane Stouffer. He is a proud grandfather to five grandchildren.

Tom graduated from Chambersburg Area Senior High School in 1960 and continued his education at Georgetown University and Georgetown University Law School.

Following law school graduation, Tom returned to Chambersburg with his young family to join the established law practice of Wingerd & Long. In his words, he was a “country lawyer” representing local clients on all types of matters. His practice increasingly focused on municipal law, and in 1985 he was appointed Borough Solicitor for Chambersburg, a position he held for decades. Tom later practiced with the Finucane Law Office and at the time of his 2014 retirement he was with the law firm of Salzmann Hughes, P.C.

Tom was an active volunteer for many worthy causes in the community, including dedicating many years as chair of the Easter Seals Board, board member of Arc of Franklin County, the Hawbaker Nature Trust, the Conococheague Institute, and as a Rotarian. He served as former President of the Franklin County Bar Association.

Tom held a love for history, particularly local history of Franklin and Fulton counties. He was an avid reader of books, magazines, and newspapers, always keeping up to date on local, national and global events. He was often seen out in the community, and a regular at the History Texas Lunch, his favorite lunch spot since 1968. While fighting multiple myeloma the past 11 years, Tom remained active and proudly engaged in twice-weekly workouts and long walks with family. Above all, Tom loved spending time with his family, who are grateful for his love, guidance, dedication and wisdom.

The following are memories and observations submitted by his fellow members of the Franklin County Bar Association:

As a young lawyer, I participated in a day of depositions with Tom. He showed me the skill of asking what appeared to be irrelevant questions to my client who never saw the ultimate plan of Tom to get him to acknowledge fault to the tort and of course lead to a quick settlement. I learned some valuable lessons in those cases in which he was an opponent. Tom also kept historical information about the bar association and the court, which he was sure to share with me through the years. He was a thoughtful and tough litigator and advocate for his clients. I offer my sympathy and condolences to his family. **Shawn D. Meyers, President Judge**

Although I had met Tom on a couple of occasions, I regrettably did not have a chance to get to know him well. However, I do know Michael and Eileen, Tom's brother and sister who are also members of the Franklin County Bar Association. With this acknowledgment I convey my sympathy and sincere respect to you and your families. **Todd M. Sponseller, Judge**

I recall Attorney Finucane most vividly as the borough solicitor for Chambersburg. During my time on borough council, Tom provided sage advice on a variety of legal issues that arose, one in particular being a hot button issue in the community. While meetings were generally routine, there was an occasional storm among council or between council and the community. Tom was the calm in the middle and he understood the unique position of advising public officials. All these years later, I can picture him leaning back in his chair, eyes closed, unfazed by the tension as he carefully pondered the question posed. His advice was respected and trusted. As my own career took a municipal path, and I found myself as a young attorney in the seat of solicitor during public meetings, I would draw upon Attorney Finucane's example. "Don't rush, don't engage in the conflict, focus on the question."

Upon Tom's well-deserved retirement as borough solicitor, I hosted a small gathering at my home to celebrate. A large, carefully decorated cake was on my dining room table. As he cut the first piece, I recall Tom looking at me with a twinkle in his eye. He didn't carve a corner piece, rather, went directly to his name, in the middle of the cake, creating a conversation piece for the remainder of the party.

Attorney Finucane will be missed. I extended my deepest sympathy to Eileen, Mike, and all family members. **Mary Beth Shank, Judge**

I fondly remember Tom as always friendly, with a measured, reassuring countenance. In court, he addressed the proceedings quietly, almost professorial, and his smooth, calming voice reflected his always-thorough preparation and his deep respect for the venue. His professionalism and imposing stature made him a natural in the courtroom. He was blessed with what appear to be typical Finucane genetics that had him graying early, but gracefully, at times resulting in a perception of him as a dean of the bar, even when he could claim to be one of the younger attorneys. **Richard J. Walsh, Judge (Retired)**

In the early years of our practices in the eighties , Tom and I litigated many divorce cases. One in particular, ended Tom's practice in matrimonial law and almost ended his life.

We foolishly agreed to assist our contentious clients in a personal property division at the marital home. We were even invited for dinner preceding our work although Tom's client, the husband, refused to join us at the dinner table.

Every room was completed except for the basement. Tom's client insisted he could remove the 500 lb. wood stove by winching it up onto boards through a cellar window and onto his truck. He directed Tom to guide the stove up the boards from the basement while he winched from outdoors. Midway up the boards, the roping broke and the wood stove flew backwards nearly flattening Tom who, in a split second, jumped away to safety. Needless to say, the wood stove crashed to the basement floor with the glass fire front breaking in pieces. Tom was very traumatized and then and there vowed this was his last divorce case! Several days later we settled this case. And Tom stuck to his word and concentrated his long legal career thereafter in municipal matters.

I thoroughly enjoyed mentally jousting with Tom. He often suggested creative solutions that solved a problem. I admired his keen intellect and lifelong deep thinking. We had a bright star in our Bar Association who will be missed. **Martha B. Walker**

Tom's and my areas of practice did not overlap, so most of my interactions with him were at social events. However, I think Bill Kaminski (my deceased business partner) would be fine with me sharing his experiences with Tom. At one point, they were involved in a hotly contested, high asset divorce case which did not endear either one to the other. And Bill also actively supported Judge Herman when he was running for judge (and Tom was also running). However, after Bill retired, Tom would stop by Bill's house, and they would have long congenial conversations. Both were highly intelligent and well-read.

In addition, Tom was always a social person. He would stop at my neighbors who I think he knew through some sort of municipal representation and bring sweet tea his wife had made. They would sit out on the back porch, drinking tea and chatting. My neighbors were elderly and enjoyed his companionship and thoughtfulness. **Janice M. Hawbaker**

There are occasions in life when someone says something to you at the exact time you need to hear it. This happened to me with Tom.

I had just gone out on my own after being an attorney for only about 3 or 4 years. Like most young lawyers trying to build their practice, I did a lot of work in counties other than Franklin and Fulton; I went to Cumberland, Dauphin, Adams, York, etc. Being young and relatively inexperienced, I often felt out of place when I traveled to other counties.

In 2001 or 2002, I arrived at our annual swearing in ceremony. I have always had a fondness of that ceremony. I remember how I felt standing in Courtroom 1 when I was sworn in; a full panel of judges on the bench, the courtroom crowded with other lawyers, family members of new admittees. I always strived to be in attendance so those being sworn in may

be impacted the way that I was. I came in to the courtroom looking around for a place to sit. This particular year, Tom, Eileen and Mike were already in the courtroom and sitting in the jury box nearest the entrance to the courtroom. Being relatively new to the bar, and clearly not as esteemed as the Finucane's, I sheepishly walked up the steps and said to Tom, "Do you think anyone would mind if I sit up here?" Without missing a beat, he said to me, "If you act like you belong, people will treat you like you belong." And then he smiled at me; it was almost a laugh. It was very disarming, and I smiled back at him.

His words didn't immediately impact me at the time. But I distinctly remember driving to court in Cumberland County later that winter, and as I was traveling up 81, his words came back to me. So, I walked into court up there trying my best to act like I belonged. I don't know if I was actually treated any differently or not; but I can tell you that in my mind, the more that I reminded myself of his words, I felt like I belonged. And have ever since.

Eric J. Weisbrod, Fulton County District Attorney

One of the wonderful things about being in Franklin County Bar Association is the number of times you cross paths with other practitioners outside the area of law in which you practice and create a relationship that otherwise would not occur. Tom was one of those people. While Tom didn't know me particularly well, he always made it a point to engage me in conversation about the Young Lawyers' Division and my newbie status in the bar. When he asked questions about how things were going, it was genuine. As a young lawyer, it was something very much appreciated.

As the years went by, Tom would often take a moment to offer congratulations to me on various professional achievements, including when I became President of the FCBA and, later, President of the Pennsylvania Bar Association. When I undertook the purchase and renovations of my office at 999 Lincoln Way East, I had no idea it was along one of Tom's regular driving routes from home. On nice afternoons, my office mates and I could often be found sitting on the porch after work, and it wasn't unusual for people to beep and wave as they drove by. Tom was no exception. I initially had no idea who would be beeping at me from an electric blue sports car with Chambersburg vanity plates at the corner of Limekiln and Lincoln Way. But when Tom stepped out of the car to wish me well with my new building, I immediately realized who it was. From that point forward, I always looked forward to getting a beep, a wave, and a smile from Tom as he turned the corner.

When you take on a new position, start a new venture, or do anything that involves risk or the unknown, it means a great deal to know that people you respect, particularly those who are institutions in your profession and community, are rooting for you. Tom had a way of making you feel that support, often without saying much at all. Sometimes, all it took was a beep, a wave, and a smile. **Kristen B. Hamilton**

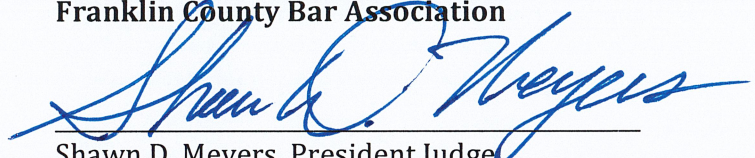
I was a newly minted attorney when I first met Tom Finucane. He practiced in areas of law that I was learning: municipal law, land use, and general litigation. While Tom always zealously represented his clients, he would take the time to explain why he was taking a certain position, the legal basis for that position, and the historical context. Tom would ask me to stop by his office at the corner of North 3rd Street and Lincoln Way East so he could

walk me through issues we were working to resolve. I was always impressed by the maps and historic décor at the Finucane Law Office. Tom loved history. When he joined Salzmman Hughes in 2008, he brought with him a collection of Franklin County bar composite photographs that still hang in our office. I thought it only fitting to include photographs of Tom from many of those portraits. Tom first appears in the 1977 portrait. It was of great significance to Tom that the attorneys who served the Borough of Chambersburg as solicitors traced their lineage back to Wingerd & Long, the Borough's first appointed solicitor. I remain grateful for Tom's willingness to help a new attorney navigate the practice of law in Franklin County, his emphasis on the importance of history and public service, and his example of zealously representing a client while maintaining professional collegiality with his peers. Tom made a lasting impact on me and on Salzmman Hughes. **Samuel E. Wiser, Jr.**

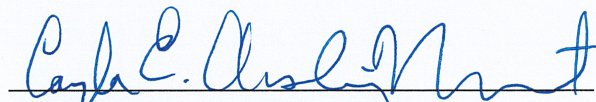
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of the Franklin County Bar Association assembled at a Special Meeting held the nineteenth day of October, 2026, express our sympathy on the occasion of the loss of Thomas "Tom" Finucane, husband, father, brother, grandfather, friend and colleague of the members of the Franklin County Bar Association. We will strive to keep his memory alive, for the strength, dedication and wisdom of those who have gone before us represent the foundation of the future generations of our profession.

Respectfully Submitted,

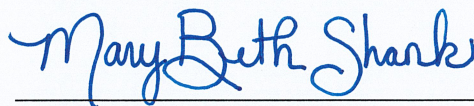
**Memorial Resolution Committee
Franklin County Bar Association**



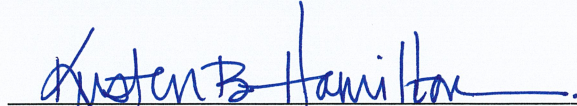
Shawn D. Meyers, President Judge
39th Judicial District of Franklin County



Cayla Amsley-Mummert, Esquire
President, Franklin County Bar Association



Mary Beth Shank, Judge
Chair, Memorial Resolution Committee



Kristen B. Hamilton, Esquire
Member, Memorial Resolution Committee

Additional memories and observations:

Tom Finucane was my friend and colleague for over 50 years. He was a delightful companion and highly skilled lawyer. He was also extremely competitive and a formidable opponent in any sort of legal matter.

3 Tom Finucanisms stand out in my memory:

- I heard Tom tell juries and arbitration panels in different cases that his client's position was supported by Occam's Razor. This may have confused a few jurors and even arbitrators but his certitude was unmistakable.

- Many years ago, when each of us still had some domestic relations cases, Tom told me that he "was going to drag my client across the finish line," leaving me with no doubt that he'd have done just that to prevail.

- In a wrongful death case, Tom told the jury that when my client picked up his decedent for a ride, "he should have been carrying a sickle."

Tom has successfully argued his way past St. Peter by now. It was an honor and a lot of fun knowing him down here!

Respectfully submitted,

John Keller