

WHEREAS, Edmund Culbertson Wingerd, a member of this Bar and former President Judge of the Courts of Franklin County, passed away at the Chambersburg Hospital on the 28th day of September, 1964, and it is the desire of the Bar Association of Franklin County to express its sorrow because of his death and to adopt a resolution in the form of a memorial.

NOW, BE IT RESOLVED, That we of the Franklin County Bar Association, with a deep sense of sadness because of the death of Judge Wingerd and of the loss which this represents to us, hereby adopt the following memorial and place the same upon the records of this Association:

Edmund Culbertson Wingerd was born on Mar. 27, 1886 at Reading, Pa., the son of Daniel H. and Nancy P. Culbertson Wingerd. His father was also a lawyer and practiced law at Reading. Judge Wingerd lived in Chambersburg from the time he was 13.

Judge Wingerd graduated from the Chambersburg Academy in 1902 and received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Franklin & Marshall College in 1906. After teaching for a year at the Chambersburg Academy he entered the law school of the University of Pennsylvania, where he received his degree of Bachelor of Laws in 1910. The same year he was admitted as a member of the Bar of Franklin County. He was subsequently admitted to practice before the Superior and Supreme Courts of Pennsylvania, the United States District Court and the Circuit Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

From his earliest days at the Bar, young Mr. Wingerd demonstrated his ability as a lawyer. At that time there were a number of excellent trial lawyers and they were not inclined to spare another lawyer simply because he was a newcomer at the Bar. Mr. Wingerd entered actively into all fields of the practice of the law and his thoroughness and meticulous preparation in all legal matters which he undertook soon established an enviable reputation for him.

It was in the trial of cases, however, that he became most formidable. He left no stone unturned in developing facts and his knowledge of the rules of evidence and of the law applicable to a particular action enabled him to win many a hotly contested case. While he tried his cases with fairness toward his opponents, he was indeed uncompromising when it came to furthering his client's interest. He was highly persuasive in his addresses to the jury and convinced the vast majority of them of the justice of his cause.

It is small wonder that with these characteristics as a lawyer his reputation spread throughout Pennsylvania. As time went on he tried many cases, not only in Chambersburg but in other Counties and in the Federal Courts, and his counsel was widely sought. Mr. Wingerd was indefatigable in his desire to achieve perfection in legal pursuits. For many years he was accustomed to work late at night in preparation for trial or in drafting his briefs for our appellate courts. For those of us who were fortunate enough to be associated with him in a case, his methods of preparation and of execution were in themselves an education. It can be said indeed that he had a love for the law, and aside from his family, this was his paramount interest in life.



Mr. Wingerd became Burgess of the Borough of Chambersburg in 1914 and after serving one term acted as its solicitor, a position which he held until 1946. He also served as solicitor for the Boroughs of Greencastle, Mercersburg and Mont Alto. He was active in Borough circles throughout the State.

Mr. Wingerd's ability as a lawyer was recognized by his colleagues and as a result he was accorded signal honors. In January of 1944 he was appointed by the Supreme Court to be a member of the State Board of Law Examiners, and became Chairman of this Board in 1946, an office he held and filled with distinction until recent years. He served as President of the Pennsylvania Bar Association in 1946-47. He was a member of the American Law Institute and served on a committee to consider a new code of evidence drafted by the Institute.

For many years Mr. Wingerd served on the Board of Law Examiners of Franklin County and as President of the Franklin County Bar Association. In 1946 he became President Judge of the 39th Judicial District of Pennsylvania and served one term, filling this high office in the best tradition. Throughout his service on the bench he insisted that the members of this Bar maintain the same degree of preparation and perfection which he exacted of himself for so many years. His opinions were highly regarded by the appellate courts of Pennsylvania, and he was rarely, if ever, reversed. In recognition of his achievements, the degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred upon him in 1952 by Franklin & Marshall College.

In 1943 Mr. Wingerd formed a partnership with Daniel W. Long, with whom he had been associated for a number of years. This continued until his elevation to the bench, and his eldest son, who bears his name, now is a member of that firm with Mr. Long.

Judge Wingerd was most active in community affairs. For many years he served as a Director of the National Bank of Chambersburg and as its solicitor. He was instrumental in the founding of the Mont Alto State Bank and served as its President.

He was equally active in the affairs of the Church. A member of the Falling Spring Presbyterian Church of Chambersburg, he served as President of its Board of Trustees for many years and afterwards became an Elder of that Church. He was a Trustee of the Rocky Spring Presbyterian Church for several decades. He was a charter member of the Lions Club of Chambersburg and served as its first President.

In 1914 Mr. Wingerd was married to Margaret Coleman of Norristown, Pa. and they had five sons. He was devoted to his family and took great pride in their accomplishments. To them we extend our deepest sympathy and express our sense of loss.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That a copy of this Resolution be sent to Mrs. Wingerd and each of his sons.

*Handwritten signatures:*  
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Committee



RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Edmund C. Wingerd for more than a half century combined unstinted public service with a distinguished career as an attorney-at-law and as President Judge of the Courts of Franklin County, and

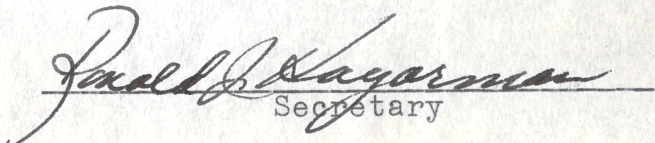
WHEREAS, a generous portion of his time and efforts were devoted to the encouragement of his fellow members of the Bar toward the fulfillment of the higher ideals of our profession, and

WHEREAS, it has been our pleasure and privilege to share in the inspiration of his leadership and his kindliness,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of The Adams County Bar that while we feel a deep sense of loss through the passing of Judge Wingerd on September 28, 1964, we also know that he shall continue to live on with us through fond memories, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we express to his family and to the Bar of Franklin County how much we share both their loss and in his contributions to and for all of us.

Adopted at and recorded in the minutes of the meeting of the Adams County Bar Association of October 8, 1964.

  
Secretary



October 1, 1964

FRANKLIN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

Special Meeting on the Death of  
Edmund C. Wingerd

A special meeting of the Franklin County Bar Association was held in the Court Room of the Franklin County Court House, Chambersburg, Penna. on Thursday, October 1, 1964 at 1:00 o'clock P. M. E.D.S.T., 12:00 o'clock P. M. E.S.T.

The following members were present: Kenneth F. Lee, Stenger Diehl, Blake Martin, Thomas Painter, Anson B. Good, Millard A. Ullman, Thomas Steiger, John R. Lashley, Jr., Paul M. Crider, George Teets, Harvey C. Bridgers, Jr., George Wenger, Thomas H. Humelsine, John McD. Sharpe, Jr., Roy S. F. Angle, LeRoy S. Maxwell, Thomas J. MacBride, Robert P. Shoemaker, Chauncey M. Depuy, J. Glenn Benedict, Albert Strite, John McD. Sharpe, Sr., Paul F. Mower, Daniel W. Long, Rudolph M. Wertime, James A. Strite, J. Stewart Glenn, William R. Davis, Thomas Crider, George C. Eppinger, Jay L. Benedict and John W. Keller.

The meeting was also attended by Miss Barbara Lutz, Executive Secretary of the Pennsylvania Bar Association, Mr. Clark Seltzer of the Lebanon County Bar, Hon. Clarence Sheely, John McI. Smith and Brewster F. Rickersham; the latter three being former Presidents of the Pennsylvania Bar Association.

The meeting was called to order by the President, Daniel W. Long, who announced that the Association had gathered together to consider a resolution to be offered on the death of Edmund C. Wingerd, Sr., former President Judge of the Courts of Franklin County and a member of the Bar Association, who had brought honor to the entire Bar. John McD. Sharpe, Sr., Chairman of the Special Resolutions Committee, read the Resolution prepared by himself, Daniel W. Long, Rudolph M. Wertime and LeRoy S. Maxwell, a copy of which is attached hereto, and moved the adoption of the Resolution.

Mr. Clark Seltzer seconded the motion commenting on his intimate acquaintanceship with Judge Wingerd and his high regard and affection for him over a period of many years.

John McI. Smith seconded the motion and stated Judge Wingerd had been an indefatigable worker and ever conscientious in the pursuit and furtherance of justice in this Commonwealth.

The Honorable Chauncey M. Depuy moved the motion be seconded with the statement that Judge Wingerd had been a great lawyer and a great Judge.

John McD. Sharpe, Jr. seconded the motion stating that he had known Judge Wingerd since he had been a small boy, had always approached the Judge with respect and awe, both as a boy and as a new lawyer and that the Judge was a distinguished lawyer jurist and civic leader and we have suffered a great loss by his passing.

J. Glenn Benedict seconded the motion recalling the many



cases in which he had been associated with Judge Wingerd as his assistant. He specifically recalled Judge Wingerd's precept that all lawyers should have "an insatiable curiosity for truth, fact and the law".

Thomas J. MacBride seconded the motion stating that he seconded the motion on behalf of the large number of attorneys now members of the Association who had been admitted during Judge Wingerd's tenure on the bench, that his influence will remain with us during all our lives.

John R. Lashley, Jr. moved the motion be seconded and stated he had practiced before the Bar of the Franklin County Courts while Judge Wingerd was in his prime, that diligence was his creed and all lawyers would profit from his example. He will be sadly missed by this Bar and the State Bar. He was a man of integrity.

Rudolph M. Wertime seconded the motion stating the Judge had been as a second father to him, had stimulated and encouraged him in his interest in the law, given him good sound advice during the hard starting years in his office, that he and the Bar had lost a fine man, a good lawyer, one whose morality was above reproach.

Daniel W. Long seconded the motion stating he had had the privilege of starting his practice of law in the Judge's office and most of the members of the Association had been admitted to the Bar after the Judge's elevation to the Bench and, therefore, were not familiar with his great ability before the Bar, that he was a formidable adversary but ever fair in his dealings. Judge Wingerd's real love was the practice of law and though he had discontinued in recent years his active practice he still liked nothing better than to engage in discussions concerning the law. President Long stated Judge Wingerd was a professional - he practiced law as a profession not as a business and he prided himself on being a country lawyer expected to give advice on all matters. He was a fine lawyer, an excellent judge, he will be missed by all and we honor his memory.

The Resolution was passed unanimously on a standing vote of the entire Association.

The meeting was adjourned and the members reassembled as a body in front of the Presbyterian Church of Falling Springs at 2 P. M. to attend the funeral services.

Respectfully submitted,



John W. Keller