

**MEMORIAL RESOLUTION  
DAVID W. REAGER, ESQUIRE**

DAUPHIN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION  
PRESENTED IN SPECIAL SESSION  
COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF DAUPHIN COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA  
OCTOBER 25, 2023

TO THE HONORABLE JUDGES OF THE COURT, OUR COLLEAGUES AT THE BAR, FAMILY AND FRIENDS HERE TODAY TO CELEBRATE THE LIFE OF OUR COLLEAGUE AND OUR FRIEND, DAVID W. REAGER:

Dave was born and bred in southcentral Pennsylvania. His mother, Gwen, was a British war bride who accompanied Dave's father, Fred, back to the United States after the war, and they settled first, for a very brief time, in Penbrook and then moved to Camp Hill where Dave spent the rest of his life.

Dave graduated from Penn State with a degree in finance which was followed by an MBA also from Penn State. He graduated from Temple Law School in 1974. Both before and while in law school, he served in the United States Army Reserve and Army National Guard from 1968-1974. In 1974 he was admitted the Pennsylvania Bar, and in 1978 he became a member of the United States Supreme Court Bar.

Dave's legal career began as an assistant attorney general with the PA Dept. of General Services where he counseled the department with respect to issues relating to government contracts and government procurement. In 1979, he joined me in the firm of Reager & Adler where we worked together for over 40 years.

Dave viewed the role of a lawyer as bringing parties together rather driving them apart. Real estate law, which was Dave's forte and for which he was widely recognized as a leading expert, provided the perfect opportunity in this regard. Even after difficult negotiations the parties always viewed Dave as one who had worked to find common ground and bring the deal to fruition.

Dave was an entrepreneur, and when it came to small and medium-sized businesses (who were often his clients), he provided them with not only legal advice but business advice as well. They all deeply appreciated his counseling and his availability. Whether it was during the day, at night or over the weekend, he was always available to provide advice and assistance. Even during the last months of his life, he was advising clients on succession plans and the sale of their businesses. Dave's death has brought forth an outpouring of gratitude from those clients.

Dave was involved in many businesses as an investor: a painting company, an insurance company, a health care company, an HVAC company, and multiple residential development companies. He also owned a restaurant, albeit only for a short time, in Washington DC which was opened in the late 1970s and closed in the early 1980s. Although it ended up closing, he always valued the lessons that he learned from being involved with a business that struggled and ultimately failed. Many times he said you learn more from your failures than you do from your successes.

Dave also had vision. He saw the value in a former nursing home on Market Street in Camp Hill that he purchased and converted to the offices that our firm occupied for over 30 years. The renovations to that building were of his design and resulted in a facility that everyone who visits admires greatly. The house where Dave and his beloved wife, Jeanne, have lived for almost 20 years is across the street from our offices. Dave designed the home, oversaw the construction, designed the landscaping and the result is a Camp Hill landmark.

But Dave's greatest achievements went beyond his role as a lawyer or as a businessman. His greatest achievement was in the area of philanthropy. He endowed scholarships at his alma mater, Penn State. He devoted his time and financial resources to a multitude of organizations on whose boards he served. He was the President of the Cleve Fredricksen Library Association during the time it built the beautiful library that stands on 19<sup>th</sup> Street in Camp Hill. He was the prime mover, both with his time and his money, behind the Plein Air Arts Festival that takes place in Camp Hill on an annual basis that recognizes artists from all over the area.

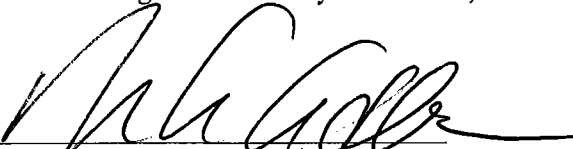
Dave was also an avid sailor. He and Jeanne took many sailing trips in the Caribbean and Dave himself participated in the Norfolk to Bermuda sailboat race. He had a second home in St. Michaels where he kept his sailboat and where he loved to spend time not only sailing but also working hard to expand and further develop the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum. He was a board member and officer of the Museum for many years. If any of you have the opportunity to visit the museum when you are in St. Michaels, it is a memorable experience.

Emerson wrote that the purpose of life is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well. Dave served that purpose well.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Bar Association mourns the death of David W. Reager and extends to his wife, Jeanne, and friends our deepest sympathies.

And Be It Further Resolved that copies of this Memorial Resolution be placed on the records of the Dauphin County Court and the Dauphin County Bar Association, that the original be filed in the Office of the Prothonotary and that copies be transmitted to his family.

Respectfully submitted by the Memorial Committee  
on behalf of David W. Reager this 25<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2023.



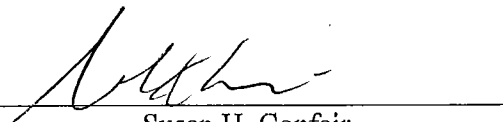
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Theodore A. Adler



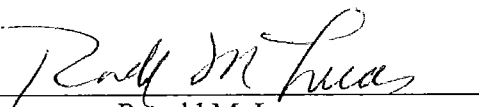
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Linus E. Fenicle



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Susan H. Confair



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Ronald M. Lucas