

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION HONORING

JAMES B. PANNEBAKER, ESQUIRE

TO THE HONORABLE JUDGES OF THE COURT, colleagues at the Bar, and
friends in attendance:

James Boyd Pannebaker, 89, of Middletown, Pennsylvania, passed away peacefully on April 28, 2025. Jim was born on March 9, 1936, in Middletown and was the son of the late Boyd and Catherine Pannebaker. He is survived by his wife, Lyn (Walter) Pannebaker; his son, Jeff Pannebaker, and Jeff's wife, Sue; his daughter Renee Bench and Renee's husband, Thad; his daughter Traci Hulstine; and his grandchildren, Thad Bench II, Morgan Bench, and Violet Hulstine.

Jim attended Middletown High School, graduating in 1954. He then went on to Elizabethtown College where he earned his degree in 1958 and was the President of his class. Jim then continued his education at the University of Michigan Law School, earning his law degree in 1961.

After graduation from law school, Jim returned to Pennsylvania to study for the bar exam and was admitted to the Pennsylvania Bar on January 9, 1962.

Jim was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving as a Captain in the JAG Corps from 1962 to 1965 in Aberdeen, Maryland.

He then returned to Pennsylvania and began working in the Dauphin County District Attorney's Office before opening his own law office.

He and a friend built an office building near Middletown in the 1970s and his office was located in the building at 4000 Vine Street from that point forward.

Jim had several different partners and associates who worked with him over his many years of practice. In 2005, he partnered with Kendra Mohr to form Pannebaker & Mohr, P.C., which was the firm that he eventually retired from.

He officially retired his law license in 2014, after 52 years of practice.

Jim was a true general practitioner and practiced many kinds of law over those 52 years. He helped an enormous number of clients with all kinds of matters, such as wills and estates, business law, municipal law, real estate, divorces, criminal matters, and motor vehicle accidents.

One of the highlights of Jim's career was winning a case before the Pennsylvania Supreme Court in 2005. His tenacious pro bono representation of his church in that matter resulted in its parking lot, and many other church parking lots, achieving tax-exempt status.

In addition to practicing law, Jim was very involved in giving back to the community. He served on the Board of Trustees of Elizabethtown College, the Board of the Community General Osteopathic Hospital, the Board of Directors of the Middletown Chapter of the American Red Cross, and the Board of Trustees of Wesley United Methodist Church of Middletown. He was a longtime member of the Rotary Club of Hershey.

Jim was a passionate and dedicated volunteer for the Boy Scouts of America. He was an Eagle Scout. He was a past President of the Keystone Area Council of the BSA and served on its Executive Board for many years until it became part of the New Birth of Freedom Council in 2010, where he continued to serve as an Executive Board member.

Jim was a recipient of the BSA God and Country Award of the United Methodist Church. He received a Silver Beaver Award from the Keystone Area Council in 1981. He was a Vigil Member of the Order of the Arrow, receiving the Founders Award in 1998.

Jim served on several committees for the Scouts. He was instrumental in fundraising, especially for the Hidden Valley Boy Scout Camp. Jim was an extremely persistent person, which made him an excellent fundraiser. He remained involved in Scouting until his passing.

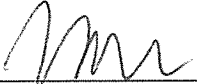
One of Jim's greatest joys was spending time with his family and friends at his cottage on Lake Thompson in Oxford, Maine. He loved to sail, canoe, and enjoy the outdoors.

Between the practice of law and all of his charitable endeavors, Jim certainly touched many lives.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of the Dauphin County Bar Association do hereby extend our deepest sympathy to Jim's family, friends, colleagues, and all who mourn his passing.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Memorial Resolution be placed in the records of the Dauphin County Court and the Dauphin County Bar Association, that an original be filed with the Prothonotary, and that copies be transmitted to his family.

Respectfully submitted this 15th day of October, 2025.



By: Kendra A. Mohr, Esq.

Seconding Remarks to the Memorial Resolution for James B. Pannebaker
October 15, 2025

Good afternoon. May it please the Court, fellow attorneys and guests.

My name is Matt Haar, and it is my honor to offer seconding remarks to the resolution honoring the life of Attorney Jim Pannebaker.

While I never encountered Jim in a legal matter for clients, I had the pleasure of getting to know Jim and working with him for approximately thirty years through the board of the local Boy Scout Council, now known as Scouting America's New Birth of Freedom Council. The Pennsylvania Rules of Professional Conduct applicable to attorneys do not require or commend public service outside of the administration of justice, but many attorneys take as part of their professional responsibilities a calling to use their skills, talents and resources for the betterment of the community beyond the practice of law. Jim was a shining example of such community leadership.

Jim was active for decades in Rotary, on the Board of Trustees of his alma mater Elizabethtown College, chairman of the board of Community General Osteopathic Hospital, the Middletown Chapter of the American Red Cross, Wesley United Methodist Church in Middletown, and especially Scouting.

I got to know Jim in the late 1990s. What was then Keystone Area Council voted to close Hidden Valley Scout Reservation, an 850 acre Scout Camp located in Loysville, Perry County, that had been welcoming Scouts since the mid-1920s.

Jim had for years been an enthusiastic supporter of Hidden Valley and viewed it as central to the soul and mission of the local Scouting community. In response to the resolution to close the camp, Jim and some other local prominent Scouters organized a group that came to be known as the Friends of Hidden Valley, and embarked on an effort to have the Scout Council rescind its decision to cease operations at Hidden Valley. Through Jim's leadership, the Scout Council was persuaded to keep Hidden Valley open and operating, and in the following years Jim was a prominent voice promoting attendance at the camp and a fundraiser for Hidden Valley, raising hundreds of thousands of dollars for capital investment in the camp. Jim's efforts were so influential that shortly after the decision was made to save Hidden Valley, Jim was elected as president of the Council. Almost 30 years later, Hidden Valley is still open and serving youth. Jim would be pleased to know that in 2027 Hidden Valley will be celebrating its 100th anniversary, and the camp would not have reached that milestone without Jim.

Jim was a real people person, and he loved working with people on all sorts of projects to accomplish common goals. Jim liked to meet people for breakfast and lunch to discuss work on common causes. While an invitation for breakfast or lunch from Jim was always taken as a friendly gesture, those who knew Jim knew that going to such a breakfast or lunch was much like preparing for a Supreme Court argument. You knew to expect tough questions and that you would likely

come away from the meeting with a list of things to do, but also with renewed enthusiasm about whatever it was you were working on with Jim at the time. Jim was notoriously early for every meeting, and it frequently turned into a friendly competition as to who could get to a meeting earlier.

While Jim was an accomplished attorney and businessman, he also enjoyed spending time with friends in the outdoors, whether at his cabin in Maine or locally. Hidden Valley was one of Jim's favorite places. He and I spent many hours there together running chainsaws, splitting firewood, and working with many other volunteers to take care of the innumerable other tasks required to keep the camp functioning. Most Saturday morning work sessions began with meeting for breakfast at one of the restaurants close to the camp. I remember one specific breakfast at what was then the Sunbonnet Restaurant. Jim had driven in his maroon Chevy Tahoe up from his home in Middletown, over Starrett's Gap and on to the restaurant in Loysville. As breakfast went on it was clear that our waitress was having a bad day. Typical of Jim, he tried to strike up a conversation with the waitress, and he asked her why she seemed upset. The waitress explained that she was late for work because from Starrett's Gap all the way to the restaurant she was stuck behind a slow-moving maroon Chevy Tahoe and she had since been working from behind all morning. Jim never explained to the waitress that he was the slow-

moving driver, but in typical Jim fashion he cheered her up and I'm sure left a generous tip.

Jim just had a knack with people. His enthusiasm for life was contagious. He loved his community, and demonstrated time and again that he was willing to put his time, effort and resources into making the community better. In the passing of Jim Pannebaker we lost not just a fellow attorney, but an outstanding example of a community leader.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: October 15, 2025

Matthew M. Haar, Esquire