

**MEMORIAL RESOLUTION OF THE
DAUPHIN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
UPON THE DEATH OF
EDWARD E. KNAUSS, III**

Edward E. Knauss, III, was born on July 14, 1917 at the home of his parents at 24 South 17th Street in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. He died on August 17, 2013 at the age of 96, having lived his entire married life at his home in Lower Paxton Township until his sudden death. He was a member of the Dauphin County Bar Association for 37 years, from 1945 until his retirement in 1982. Ed or "Eddie" as he was known even in later years to many of his friends, colleagues, and family members, had two older sisters and was the son of Florence Wolf and Edward E. Knauss, Jr., who was an administrator and teacher of math and Latin in the Harrisburg City schools. Eddie walked a mile up Market Street to attend John Harris High School, from which he graduated in 1935 as Salutatorian and President of his class. While in high school, he wrote articles for the Harrisburg Telegraph newspaper and won a state-wide contest for his reporting sponsored by the Pennsylvania Newspaper Publishers Association. That job taught him good writing skills, the importance of being thorough and accurate in gathering facts, being prompt and dependable, and meeting deadlines, traits which later served him well in his professional life.

Ed graduated from Dickinson College in 1939 with First Honors and election to Phi Beta Kappa. He was a member of the SAE Fraternity and majored in English and German. He was awarded a scholarship to study at a German university for a year after college, which was cancelled to his great disappointment due to the outbreak of war in Europe. His career path was thus forever altered, as he decided to attend law school at Dickinson Law School, from which he graduated in 1942. Due to the entry of the United States into the war, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruled that all law students who had satisfactorily completed law school and joined or were drafted into the military would be automatically admitted to the Bar without having to take the Bar exam. Ed entered the military in the summer of 1942 and was admitted to the Bar that same year. He was selected as a special agent for the Army Counter-Intelligence Corps, where he learned the fundamentals of espionage. Throughout most of the war he was stationed at the U.S. Base Command in Newfoundland, Canada, where there was a need to investigate German U-Boat activity in the North Atlantic. Though he never had any post-war stories to tell about capturing German spies, he did manage to capture the attention of a beautiful young member of the Royal Canadian Air Force who was

stationed there, Marion Smith, whom he married after the war in 1946. They were blessed with four children.

Ed began his law career in 1945, joining the firm of Maurice Metzger and Brewster Wickersham on the 5th floor of the Keystone Building at 22 South Third Street in Harrisburg. The firm, which still exists, changed its name to Metzger, Wickersham, Knauss and Erb, after Ed and Christian Erb became partners. Other partners Ed practiced with at the firm where he stayed his entire career include Dick Wickersham, Robert Yetter, Jim Carl, Bob Reed, Jere Hock and Eddie's son, Ted. The firm later moved to the Commonwealth National Bank Building on Market Square where Ed finished out his career in 1982. Ed practiced with great ability in various areas of the law. As a trial attorney, through his hard work and diligence, he won the confidence of many insurance company clients too numerous to name, whom he represented in state and federal courts, including in this very courtroom. He handled cases involving auto accidents, product liability, civil rights, and professional liability where he defended architects, engineers, accountants, lawyers, realtors, doctors, and hospitals. His courtroom success came not through emotional or dramatic behavior but by preparation, a command of the facts, and calm but logical arguments. However, he always believed that a good lawyer settles cases and would approve of the current emphasis on mediation rather than trial. He had a large estate practice and was a Fellow of the peer-selected American College of Probate Counsel, now known as the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel. He was solicitor for Central Dauphin School District and its predecessor districts through 29 years of school board changes, from 1953 to 1982, where he also handled bond issues for the school district. He was a delegate and member of the Judicial Conference for the Third Circuit for 15 years. He served for 10 years on the Selective Service System local board and then for another 10 years on the State Appeals Board for the Middle District as the law member during the Vietnam War, hearing cases of conscientious objectors. After that war, Ed's compassion and character moved him to take a young Cambodian refugee into his home for a year in 1975.

Ed liked to read the New York Times on a regular basis to keep abreast of national and international events and politics, on which he could intelligently converse, and was even occasionally seen pulling the Times out of his briefcase at a deposition if the questioning became too repetitious. His interest in politics led him to his one and only candidacy in 1950

when he ran unsuccessfully for state legislator representing the City of Harrisburg, as a member of the "John Kunkel Fighting Five," who were attempting to unseat the candidates supported by Senator Harvey Taylor's political organization. In 1971, Ed did briefly consider a run for a Dauphin County judgeship after discussions with his friend and neighbor, Jim Keiser, who was then Chairman of the Dauphin County Republican Committee. However, it was nevertheless the good fortune of Dauphin County that Ed's younger law partner and friend at the firm, Dick Wickersham, was elected to that position later that year.

Eddie was a sociable and affable person who enjoyed the company of other lawyers and liked to attend Bar conferences of the various organizations he belonged to. He said that he would not want to do anything else for a living. If he had heard any cynical remarks about the legal profession, he might have replied by pointing out the commendable lawyer in one of his favorite bible stories in Luke Chapter 10, who correctly answered Jesus that the way to eternal life is to love God with all your heart and mind and your neighbor as yourself. Ed tried to live as described by that lawyer in both his professional and private life. He enjoyed working with and meeting people, whom he always treated with kindness, respect and generosity, including younger members of the Bar whom he was always willing to help by sharing his knowledge and experience. The sorrows and tribulations of life did not pass him by, as he saw his sister, his wife, and a son all predecease him at young ages. However, he never lost his faith or energy, and persevered with his work in providing and caring for his family.

Ed was a past officer and board member of the Dauphin County Bar Association and was active in the Harrisburg Kiwanis Club, the Zembo Shrine, the Robert Burns Lodge, and the Colonial Park Community Club. He was a member of Stevens Memorial United Methodist Church at 13th and Vernon Streets in Harrisburg for 78 years, where he served as a trustee and a Sunday school teacher. Both before and after his retirement, he enjoyed listening to classical music and overseas travel, having visited Europe, Africa, Japan and China; but most of all he enjoyed being with his family.

He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Isabel, whom he married and with whom he had one daughter after his first wife, Marion, died in 1963. He is also survived by four children: Ted, David, Kathy Hertzler and Holly Clifford, ten grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren, all of whom were the joy of his life and who will miss him dearly.

Ed would be honored and humbled if remembered by the Bar in the words of condolence sent to his family after his death by Attorney Thomas Menaker, who practiced at McNeese Wallace & Nurick for many years before moving to Florida, and whom many of us remember. Tom wrote:

"Ed was a true gentleman and a dedicated professional from the 'old school.' When I first joined the Bar nearly 50 years ago, I was involved in litigation against Ed and quickly learned that he was honest, fair, and friendly, but still an effective and vigorous advocate for his client. Ed was a fine role model and the profession needs more like him."

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that in the passing of Edward E. Knauss, III, the community and Bar have lost a true gentleman, a respected citizen, and a distinguished lawyer; and that his family has lost a loving and devoted husband, father and grandfather.

AND RESOLVED FURTHER that the members of the Dauphin County Bar Association, in meeting assembled, mourn the death of our esteemed colleague Edward E. Knauss, III, and tender our sympathy and condolences to his family.

AND RESOLVED FURTHER that copies of this Memorial Resolution be spread upon the records of the Dauphin County Courts and the Dauphin County Bar Association; that the original be filed in the Office of the Prothonotary; and that copies be transmitted to the widow and family of Edward E. Knauss, III.

Respectfully submitted this 2nd Day of October, 2013
Edward E. Knauss, III, Memorial Committee

By: Christian S. Erb, Jr.
Christian S. Erb, Jr., Esquire

By: Jeannine Turgeon
Honorable Jeannine Turgeon

By: James F. Carl
James F. Carl, Esquire

By: Robert P. Reed
Robert P. Reed, Esquire

By: John A. Roe
John A. Roe, Esquire

By: Lacy Hayes, Jr.
Lacy Hayes, Jr., Esquire

By: Edward E. Knauss, IV
Edward E. Knauss, IV, Esquire (Chairman)