

1 **P. J. NANCY BUTTS:** Welcome everyone. This
2 afternoon we have the privilege of holding a Memorial Service for
3 Don M. Larrabee, a long-time member of our law association. We
4 recognize and appreciate the attendance of Attorney Larrabee's
5 family members, who are here to join us for the Memorial Service.
6 I believe I see his wife, Ann. I believe there is also children
7 and other friends and family members here. So we thank you and
8 welcome you all.

9 On February, I believe it was 19th, I
10 appointed a Committee to draft the Report and Resolution
11 recognizing the life and accomplishments of Don M. Larrabee. The
12 Chairman of the Committee is Judge Kenneth Brown and members of
13 the Committee are Judge William Kieser, Ed Mitchell, Doug
14 Engelman, Tom Marshall and Scott A. Williams. I now recognize
15 Judge Brown as the Chairman of the Committee to present the
16 Committee's Report and Resolutions, please.

17 **JUDGE BROWN:** Thank you, Judge Butts. Can you
18 hear me okay?

19 **P. J. NANCY BUTTS:** Yes.

20 **JUDGE BROWN:** Good. Okay. To the Honorable
21 Judges of the above-named Court. The Honorable Judge Nancy L.
22 Butts, President Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Lycoming
23 County, 29th Judicial District by order dated February 19th,
24 2021, appointed the Undersigned Committee to draft resolutions
25 memorializing the life of Don M. Larrabee, II, Esquire, and to

1 submit the same to this Honorable Court at a session of court
2 scheduled for this day and time. The report will now be
3 submitted by teleconference.

4 Don Marshall Larrabee, II, was a member of
5 the Bar of this Court for 46 years.

6 Don was born in Williamsport on November
7 26th, 1941, and died on August 10th, 2020, at the age of 78.

8 Don was the son of the late John Amsden and
9 Rae Crooks Larrabee.

10 Don was the beloved husband of Ann Henry
11 Larrabee with whom he shared over 23 years of loving marriage.
12 Survivors in addition to his wife, Ann, Don will be lovingly
13 remembered by his daughter, Deborah Lynn Hite and husband Jason
14 of Woodstown, New Jersey; stepsons, Brian R. Carosielli of
15 Chatham, New Jersey and Todd M. Carosielli and his wife, Nicole,
16 of Seattle, Washington; grandchildren, Madeline Rae and Lillian
17 Grace Hite, Olivia Kathryn, Owen Michael, Isabel Ann, and Lucia
18 Rose Carosielli.

19 Don was a graduate of Williamsport High
20 School Class of 1959, Franklin & Marshall College Class of 1963
21 and Fordham University School of Law Class of 1966. Besides his
22 long-time practice of law, Don taught business law, Lecturer in
23 Law, at Lycoming College for 37 years.

24 Don M. succeeded his uncle, Don L., in this
25 position.

1 Don was a lifetime member of the Grays Run
2 Club in Trout Run, PA.

3 Don's family has made important contributions
4 to the Lycoming County Bench and Bar. His grandfather, Don
5 Marshall Larrabee, was elected as a Lycoming County Judge in 1931
6 and in 1938 he became the President Judge of Lycoming County and
7 he was noted for his fairness.

8 Judge Larrabee's son, Don Lincoln Larrabee,
9 was an attorney and practiced law in Lycoming County. In 1952
10 upon Judge Larrabee's retirement, he resumed private practice of
11 law with his son, Don Lincoln Larrabee.

12 Don Lincoln Larrabee, like our Don, taught at
13 Lycoming College for 27 years.

14 After his graduation from law school and
15 admission to the bar in 1966, Don shared office space and
16 practiced law with his uncle, Don Lincoln Larrabee, in the
17 Bidlespacher Building. Don Lincoln Larrabee died in 1972.

18 Upon his admission to the bar in November of
19 1968 Judge William Kieser opened his own law office and
20 association with Don L. and Don M. in which he continued through
21 1971. Don continued his practice at this location until 1975.

22 Don also served as a part-time law clerk for
23 President Judge Charles Greevy and Judge Thomas Wood.

24 In 1971 Don ran for the Office of District
25 Attorney of Lycoming County on the Republican ticket, but he lost

1 in a close election to Allen Ertel.

2 From 1975 till 1981 Don practiced at 143 West
3 Fourth Street and became good friends with Attorney Richard
4 Roesgen, who also worked in the building.

5 In 1981 Don entered into a partnership with
6 his friend, Attorney Richard Roesgen, and formed the law firm of
7 Roesgen, Larrabee and Brown. Judge Brown had previously been an
8 associate with Dick Roesgen in the law firm of Hager & Roesgen.
9 They located this new law firm in the Old City Hall Building on
10 Pine Street.

11 In 1988 Judge Brown, with the support of Don
12 and Dick Roesgen, applied for and was appointed to the Lycoming
13 County bench for the vacancy left by the early retirement of
14 Judge Robert Wollet. Judge Brown was elected for a 10-year-term
15 in November of 1989.

16 Upon the departure of Judge Brown, Attorney
17 Douglas Engelman joined the firm, which became the firm of
18 Roesgen, Larrabee and Engelman.

19 Around 1994 Don opened up his own office to
20 practice law associating with Attorney Peter Burchanowski at 4
21 West Fourth Street in Williamsport. Don maintained his practice
22 of law at this location till approximately 2011.

23 With Don getting ready for retirement he
24 became of counsel to the law firm of McNerney, Page, Vanderlin &
25 Hall at 433 Market Street. Don was of counsel until 2012 when he

1 retired from the practice of law.

2 Don married Barbara Green in 1973. They had
3 one daughter, Deborah Lynn. In 1994 Don and Barbara divorced.

4 In 1996 Don married Ann Henry Carosielli.
5 They were married in Covenant Central Church in Williamsport.

6 Don first met Ann, who lived in Lancaster, in
7 1968 and it was a summer romance. Don was a young attorney and
8 Ann went back to college. Over the years they would hear news of
9 each other as their mothers were friends. Don and Ann both
10 married someone else and raised children.

11 Ann's husband, Michael Carosielli, died at
12 age 47. They had two children, Brian and Todd.

13 Ann, still in Lancaster, contacted Don by
14 phone for legal advice in settling her husband's estate. Once
15 the legal conversations concluded they decided to meet once more.
16 Twenty-six years had past since they had last seen each other.

17 Don on every weekend thereafter would drive
18 to Lancaster so they could spend time together. When Don would
19 tell the "second time around" story he always said I can't let
20 her get away this time.

21 Married in 1996 Don and Ann resided in
22 Williamsport for the next 16 years. Don continued his law
23 practice, Ann taught at Turbotville Elementary and then Central
24 Elementary in South Williamsport.

25 Around 2011 Ann noticed that when walking

1 together Don would have trouble keeping up with her. Don's
2 symptoms became concerning and he was then diagnosed with
3 Parkinson's Disease. Looking to the future they built a home
4 with handicap modifications in Bethlehem, PA. This new location
5 shortened the distance for the children and grandbabies.

6 The disease progressed and Don became
7 wheelchair bound in 2016.

8 The following years were a challenge as the
9 disease took so much from Don. He never complained and remained
10 grateful for all that he could still enjoy. He especially
11 cherished times with family, watching the grandchildren growing
12 up, spending winter months in their Venice, Florida home,
13 cruising with friends, enjoying a chilled martini and a good
14 meal, winning at cards, a good mystery, their dachshund, Susie.
15 These things kept him upbeat. His quick wit still kept those
16 around him smiling. His faith was strong and he was still
17 Zooming to church during the pandemic. His positive outlook was
18 nothing short of pretty amazing.

19 Don's last month was a stay in three
20 different hospitals and he died from multiple complications from
21 Parkinson's on August 10th, 2020, in Bethlehem.

22 Don is buried in his hometown of Williamsport
23 in Wildwood Cemetery.

24 Don was always a gentleman and was always
25 respected as a skillful and honorable practitioner of law and was

1 quickly loved by his partners and associates he worked with over
2 the years.

3 Don will live on in the hearts of family and
4 his many friends.

5 Your Committee recommends the adoption of the
6 following resolutions:

7 Be it resolved that in the passing of Don M.
8 Larrabee, II, there has been a loss to the Lycoming County Bar of
9 an able, conscientious member who upheld and exemplified the
10 highest traditions of the legal profession, a loss to the
11 community of a valued participant, a loss to his family of a
12 devoted, kind, and loving father and grandfather and a loss to
13 his friends and acquaintances of a sincere and caring man.

14 Be it further resolved that this Court and
15 this Bar hereby extend to Don's wife, Ann, children, and
16 grandchildren a deep and heartfelt expression of sympathy.

17 Be it further resolved that this Resolution
18 be spread at length upon the Minutes of the Court of Lycoming
19 County and that copies of the same be sent to Don's wife,
20 children, and grandchildren.

21 Submitted by the Committee, myself, Honorable
22 Judge William Kieser, C. Edward Mitchell, Douglas Engelman,
23 Thomas C. Marshall and Scott A. Williams.

24 Thank you, Judge Butts.

25 **P.J. NANCY BUTTS:** You're welcome. Judge Brown,

1 did you wish to make any personal statements regarding your
2 knowledge of Mr. Larrabee?

3 **JUDGE BROWN:** Yes, I would. First, as Judge Butts
4 has mentioned, I do want to acknowledge members of Don's family,
5 his wife, Ann; Deborah Hite, his daughter; Brian Carosielli,
6 stepson; Olivia and Owen Carosielli, grandchildren; Madeline and
7 Lillian Hite, granddaughters; Joan Carosielli, mother-in-law; and
8 Ray Slingerland, cousin. So quite a nice turnout from the
9 family.

10 One of the few benefits of getting older is
11 gaining a prospective as to the people who have been most
12 important over the years. I first met Don when working with Dick
13 Roesgen at 143 West Fourth Street. Then in 1981 we formed the
14 law firm Roesgen, Larrabee and Brown.

15 Don was great to work with. He was always
16 even-keeled. He never seemed down or depressed. Don was always
17 willing to help and give the benefit of his insight and
18 experience. I'll give you an early example of Don is somebody
19 who was willing to help. Early in our practice I had represented
20 Hartford Insurance Company as a client and I had filed a motion
21 to dismiss and it was going to be heard by Judge Muir. Now,
22 Judge Muir was known to be a stickler and if you did not file a
23 brief on time the motion would be dismissed and the day the brief
24 was due, about 4:00 I got it done. Our secretary had to leave to
25 pick up her children from school and I was manning the copying

1 machine trying to get this brief copied so I could submit it to
2 the court and being all thumbs I was having some problems. Don
3 quickly noticed that I was having some problems and getting a
4 little bit panicky and he came over to the copy machine and he
5 helped me sort out the copies and I must say I was getting
6 panicky because the -- I was going to meet with the adjuster the
7 next day to go over the case and this was an adjuster who didn't
8 like attorneys and especially didn't like young attorneys and I
9 had this bad vision of sitting there at this meeting telling him
10 that I had lost the motion by not filing the brief on time, which
11 would have been a very bad start to the meeting. So Don helped
12 me. About 4:45 we got the copies, got the brief packaged up. He
13 said come on, come down to my car and he got his car running and
14 he drove me over to the Federal Courthouse and we got the brief
15 filed on time. So he was kind of a savior for me at that point
16 in time.

17 Don was also there to help me on bigger
18 issues. In 1980 I was the District Attorney of Lycoming County,
19 but at that time the District Attorney was part time, it was not
20 full time despite the fact that the work was full time. Thus, in
21 1981 when we formed the law firm I was really a part-time partner
22 working in the DA's office. The reality was though that I was
23 barely getting over to the private office, especially in the
24 beginning years. It was really hard getting my feet planted and
25 I was kind of neglecting the private office and the clients. I

1 started to feel really guilty about this and I sat down and
2 talked with Don about it and Don told me that the District
3 Attorney's job was the most important thing and that he would
4 pick up the slack and help with my clients and he made me feel a
5 lot better. I felt very guilty about the situation, but after
6 talking to Don I really felt a lot better about the situation.

7 In 1988 Judge Robert Wollett retired from the
8 bench before the end of his term because of health reasons.
9 Governor Robert Casey appointed a merit selection panel to
10 recommend an attorney to fill the position. Don encouraged me to
11 apply and he helped me with the lengthy application process.
12 With his help I was fortunate enough to be selected by Governor
13 Casey to fill this position. The reality is this would not have
14 happened without Don's encouragement and his support.

15 I do have to admit with some regret that when
16 Don left Lycoming County I really lost contact with him, however,
17 I have been very gratified to learn of Don's happy life with Ann
18 surrounded by family, grandchildren, and friends. It's also
19 gratifying to see that despite Parkinson's Disease, which
20 eventually took his life, Don was never down or depressed, that
21 even in his hospitalizations Ann told me that he still was not
22 above flirting with some of the nurses. Don was a good friend, a
23 mentor, and a great attorney. He will live on forever in my
24 memory. Thank you, Judge Butts.

25 **P. J. NANCY BUTTS:** Thank you, Judge Brown. Judge

1 Kieser, did you wish to say a few words?

2 **JUDGE BROWN:** I think he is muted.

3 **P.J. NANCY BUTTS:** I know he is and he's talking
4 to somebody asking for help.

5 **JUDGE KIESER:** Okay. Too many buttons for an old
6 guy to push. I just have such great fond memories of the time
7 that I spent with Don, which was basically in the practice of law
8 together, which was basically from '68 through '72. I had become
9 acquainted with the Larrabee family while I was a student at
10 Lycoming College and when I had an interest of going to law
11 school Don L. Larrabee encouraged me greatly. I had him for
12 business law and then Don L. became my preceptor and so in the
13 summer -- couple summers that I worked out of the law office is
14 why I got acquainted with Don M. I was in the office there in
15 the summer his first time that he was there. In any event,
16 excuse me for that; but Don L. brought me in to the group of
17 practice with Don M. and in doing that it was a rescue for me and
18 Don M. was a great part of that rescue and that was because in
19 November of 1968 as I found out I had passed the bar exam and was
20 going to be admitted to the bar, my plans to go into the Navy JAG
21 fell through because of some physical issues and all of a sudden
22 I had no place to go to work and Don L. and Don M. welcomed me
23 into starting a practice with them. I rented an office in the
24 Bidlespacher Building up the hall from them and we had great
25 times together. Don M. really showed me the ropes and introduced

1 me to all different members of the bar and just kind of led me by
2 the hand through those first couple years of law practice that
3 are so important. He had a great relationship with his clients
4 and was, you know, everybody just appreciated Don's kindness, his
5 smile and, of course, his legal ability in the practice that he
6 had.

7 We had some very good times together. I
8 fondly remember that at least once a month on a Friday that Tom
9 Raup and Don, who were very close friends along with perhaps Bob
10 Sarno, a couple other people, including myself on many occasions,
11 would go up to the Bull and Barrel Tavern for lunch on Fridays.
12 I think that Don had the paycheck system worked out in Tom Raup's
13 Office that it seemed that whenever Tom had a good payday why
14 that was the day we would head up to the Bull and Barrel and just
15 a lot of good social times and Don was just a central leader
16 there.

17 We worked through a whole lot of changes in
18 the practice of law and when I started in the office there were
19 no dictating machines, everything was dictated, the secretary
20 took things down shorthand and Don and I never convinced some to
21 do otherwise; but we started getting those old IBM dictaphones
22 and then photocopying that was something that was brand new and I
23 brought a photocopier from my dad into the office, it had that
24 old onion skin copy paper and just so many things that we worked
25 through together for.

1 At the same time I was working as an
2 Assistant District Attorney with Allen Ertel and in 1971, as
3 mentioned, Don decided and I think perhaps with the urging of Tom
4 Raup; but Don decided to run for District Attorney. Put me in a
5 little bit of an unusual situation in that I'm working for Allen
6 Ertel, the sitting District Attorney and Don, who was challenging
7 him and put up quite a strong challenge. I think maybe to
8 Allen's surprise a little bit because Don didn't really have any
9 experience in criminal law field, but nevertheless it was a tough
10 spot that I was in kind of throughout that election and Allen
11 prevailed and Don was always the gracious gentleman about it,
12 just never brought it up, we were still able to share some things
13 civilly, that is, in our the civil practice, share some things
14 and cover each other and after he lost he was, again, gracious
15 and would have, you know, gladly the kept the association going;
16 but it just became a little tough to try and carry on at length
17 for me and so I separated and went and opened up an office
18 sharing with Allen Ertel at that time.

19 After that Don and I didn't have an awful lot
20 of association except to see each other and occasionally we'd
21 have clients that had real estate transactions, things of that
22 nature together and just the same Don, just the gracious
23 gentleman, knowledgeable lawyer.

24 So I'd just like to express to Ann and to the
25 rest of his family both my respect and my sympathy. He was just

1 a really good guy.

2 **P.J. NANCY BUTTS:** Thank you, Judge Kieser.
3 Mr. Mitchell.

4 **MR. MITCHELL:** May it please the Court, members of
5 the Bar, Ann, and members of Don's family. I first met Don when
6 I was in junior high school. He was two years ahead of me in
7 school and I followed him through junior high and through
8 Williamsport High School and we became friends and we remained
9 friends, actually, for the rest of his life. Interestingly, I
10 actually knew Ann before I knew Don because although Ann is
11 younger than me, she was a very close friend of my sister, Patty,
12 from the time they started grade school. So I actually knew Ann
13 before I knew Don.

14 You know when we started working on this
15 resolution the word that always comes forward when you talk about
16 Don Larrabee is gentleman and everybody says gentleman and it's
17 in the resolution. So I started thinking I got to think of some
18 word other than gentleman because everybody knows he's a
19 gentleman and everybody is going to say gentleman. So I started
20 thinking about other words and there are a lot, but these are the
21 ones that I wrote down, even-tempered, happy, well-liked, nice
22 guy, professional, good dresser, handsome, sincere, content, and
23 respected and there could be many, many more; but he was all of
24 those things.

25 He was a member of the class of --

1 Williamsport High School of the Class of 1959, graduated from the
2 old high school on West Third Street and I have his yearbook
3 here. He had seven lines of activities, which include being on
4 the Cherry and White, which was the school magazine, editorial
5 staff. He was the humor editor. He was on student council. He
6 was in High Y and was vice president. He was in the glee club,
7 the chorus, and he was also a member of what was a new --
8 relatively new club at that high school at that time called the
9 Key Club, which was a club sponsored by the Kiwanis and that --
10 to get into Key Club was really an accomplishment as that was the
11 club that you wanted to be in at Williamsport High School in
12 1959. Also a member of that Class of 1959 was Scott A. Williams.

13 In the practice of law I didn't cross paths
14 with Don very much. He generally didn't do adversarial work and
15 I generally didn't do anything but adversarial work so we didn't
16 cross paths in the practice of law, but I would frequently see
17 him and whenever I did we would stop and have a conversation. He
18 was always very pleasant.

19 We were both members of the Grays Run Club,
20 in fact, Don was the first member of our generation to become a
21 member of the Grays Run Club. He became a member in 1969. He
22 became an officer soon thereafter and was an officer throughout
23 most of the 70's. In 2007 he was voted to become a life member
24 so he remained a member of the Grays Run Club for the rest of his
25 life. The last time I saw Don was at Grays Run. In June of 2018

1 when Grays Run celebrated its hundredth anniversary and Ann and
2 Don came back to Williamsport and spent the weekend and Don sat
3 in the locker room with Ann for hours as old friends and new
4 friends spoke with him and it was quite a nice -- a nice event.
5 He was happy. He was alert. He was smiling. He knew people.
6 He had nice conversations with people. There were a lot of
7 pictures taken that day, but the one that sits on top of the
8 lockers at Grays Run is a picture of Don and Jack Person, who at
9 that time was two months shy of his hundredth birthday, the two
10 of them talking with each other with great smiling faces.

11 You know, once in a while -- I actually
12 several times in my career I crossed paths with somebody that
13 graduated from Lycoming College and they hear that I'm from
14 Williamsport and I'm a lawyer and they say you must know one of
15 the Don Larrabees and they always speak very highly of the
16 business law classes that were taught by the Don Larrabees.

17 I attended Don Larrabee's memorial at
18 Wildwood last summer, it was at the height of Covid, it was
19 outside, it was very well attended; but the thing that impressed
20 me the most were the things that were said about Don by his
21 stepsons. They truly communicated how they felt about him, had
22 great respect for him, great admiration for him and I think that
23 was a great testament to his life. Don was a gentleman and he
24 was also just an all-around good person and we need more people
25 like Don. Thank you.

1 **P. J. NANCY BUTTS:** Thank you, Mr. Mitchell.
2 Mr. Engelman.

3 **DOUG ENGELMAN:** May it please the Court, members
4 of the Bar, Ann and family. My first experience in meeting Don
5 was as a Lycoming College student. I had spent two years at West
6 Point and I left there because I wanted to pursue a law career
7 and my first experience with the law was through Don's business
8 law course and I will tell you that I struggled with it, wondered
9 if I had made a mistake and I did okay, I got through it and Don
10 was very supportive of me as a student. I talked to him many
11 times and I will tell you that when I went out to Pepperdine and
12 took contracts I used those notes that I had from that course and
13 I was able to get -- I scored the third highest in the class in
14 contracts because of what he taught me and I will tell you and I
15 told him later when we became partners that that was him, not me
16 because I didn't get that high of score in all the other classes
17 and when I told him that story he gave me his big smile.

18 Don had a smile that could light up a room.
19 He was such a pleasant man and Ed has used a lot of terms to
20 describe Don. One term I would like to use is integrity. Don
21 had enormous integrity and he had a significant knowledge of the
22 law, perhaps equivalent to someone like Judge Muir who knew it
23 all and I would use him. Frequently I would go to him and say,
24 you know, Don here's the situation, here's what we have and he
25 would have the answer and he was very supportive of me.

1 He graduated from high school in 1959. I was
2 three years old. So there was an age difference between Don and
3 I, but it didn't matter to him. He was so supportive of me and
4 taught me so much in those few years that I had.

5 Like Judge Brown I regret that I lost contact
6 with Don. I enjoyed his company whenever I was around him. I'm
7 happy to hear that in his later years, you know, after -- after I
8 lost contact he apparently had a very happy family setting and
9 Deb, I understand that you're also doing quite well and very
10 happy and I'm very glad to hear that.

11 So I just want to say that Don was one of the
12 more influential people in my law career and in my life and I
13 will always have a place in my heart for Don. Very good man.
14 Thank you.

15 **P.J. NANCY BUTTS:** Thank you, Mr. Engelman.
16 Mr. Marshall.

17 **TOM MARSHALL:** Yes. May it please the Court,
18 fellow members of the Bar, the Larrabee family, on behalf of
19 myself and the firm our sincere condolences on the loss of Don.
20 I didn't know Don for long, but he certainly made an impression
21 and I concur with all of the descriptions that have come before.

22 As Don prepared to retire from the practice
23 of law in 2011 his primary professional concern was taking care
24 of his clients and assuring that there was a smooth transition as
25 he moved into retirement. So he approached McNerney Page. My

1 partner, Peter Facey, succeeded Don as the lecturer of law at
2 Lycoming College and Don through talking to Peter and also
3 talking to my former partner, Judge Tira, very quickly worked out
4 an arrangement for Don to come on as of counsel at McNerney Page
5 and Don -- he was offered an office, he didn't want an office, he
6 said a conference room would do and he set up shop in the back
7 conference room at our office and that's when many of us really
8 got to know Don and work with Don and meet Don and I'm not sure
9 how he got anything done because it was a constant parade of
10 people stopping by when they heard he was in to say hello. He
11 was always pleasant, always kind, always in a good mood, always
12 smiling, always quick to share a laugh, a smile, a story.
13 Everything you've heard prior to me speaking was our experience
14 with Don.

15 He spoke fondly of his family. He was
16 looking forward to winding up his law practice and the move to
17 Bethlehem and to be closer to his family and he chatted with many
18 of us about his plans and he told stories among the partners here
19 and the lawyers who would stop by about his practice.

20 He was also a mentor as folks would stop by
21 and have questions, particularly, regarding estate planning. The
22 impression that he left on us and on myself is the same that you
23 heard from everyone. He was kind.

24 He was considerate. He was always a
25 gentleman. He was always professional. He had tremendous

1 integrity and it was our distinct pleasure to have that time with
2 Don and we're all better for it. Thank you.

3 **P.J. NANCY BUTTS:** Thank you, Mr. Marshall. The
4 last member of the Committee is Scott A. Williams and I know
5 there was a chance he might not be here and there are a number of
6 people who don't have their name on their phone so I'm not sure
7 if he's with us. Michelle, do you know if he's here?

8 **MICHELLE FREY:** I don't know, Judge. Is there a
9 way for people on their telephone to unmute if they dialed -- if
10 they dialed in because he may have dialed in.

11 **P.J. NANCY BUTTS:** Okay.

12 **SCOTT A. WILLIAMS:** Okay. Can you hear me now,
13 Judge?

14 **P.J. NANCY BUTTS:** Yes, I can.

15 **SCOTT A. WILLIAMS:** All right. Thank you, Your
16 Honor. May it please the Court. Donnie, as I used to call him,
17 and I graduated together in the Class of '59 at Williamsport High
18 School. At that time we were about over 700 students in that
19 class and we were friends. He was always congenial at that time
20 and we liked to have a good time together and we traveled
21 together in what we called the WOLFORD'S bus to such places as
22 Reading, Lancaster, and Harrisburg for home games of the
23 Williamsport High School Millionaire's football team. He was
24 elected to student council and the honor society and was very
25 well liked in high school. When I went to Dickinson College he

1 went to Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster. I didn't -- I
2 lost track of him in law school, but we reunited as we studied
3 for the bar and were sworn in together as members of the Lycoming
4 County Bar in November of 1966. He practiced law for all those
5 years and was very competent in what he was doing -- and I just
6 lost my statement here. Anyway, in any event, he was a gentleman
7 and he was well respected and competent in his law practice and
8 also as a professor. He also was an honest man, a believer, and
9 I wanted to extend my deepest sympathy for the family and offer
10 our prayers to them at this difficult time. I can share a lot of
11 other things, but in the hour I think that's all I wanted to say.
12 Thank you.

13 **P. J. NANCY BUTTS:** Thank you, Mr. Williams. The
14 Court approves the Report and Resolution of the Committee and
15 enters the following order: And now this 26th day of April,
16 2021, in consideration of the Resolutions presented by the
17 Committee appointed to draft resolutions in the Death of Don M.
18 Larrabee, II, Esquire, the said Resolutions are adopted and it is
19 ORDERED AND DIRECTED that the Resolutions herewith submitted and
20 attached be adopted as an official expression of the Lycoming
21 County Law Association and this Court and that the same be spread
22 upon the records of the Court and the copies of this Resolution
23 be delivered to the family of Don M. Larrabee, II, Esquire, and
24 it is further ORDERED AND DIRECTED that said Resolution be
25 entered at large upon the record of the Court and that it be

1 printed in the Lycoming Reporter.

2 I'd now like to ask my colleagues to say a
3 few words about Mr. Larrabee and Judge Lovecchio wasn't able to
4 be here today, but I believe he gave his statement to Michelle
5 Frey, the Executive Director of the Law Association.

6 **MICHELLE FREY:** Thank you, Judge. Yeah, Judge
7 Marc Lovecchio sends his regrets and when he realized that he
8 wasn't going to be in attendance he did send me his remarks last
9 week and I'll read them to you now.

10 I had the pleasure of meeting Don soon after
11 I moved to Williamsport in the mid 1980's. If I remember
12 correctly he worked with Dick Roesgen and Judge Brown. He was
13 one of the go-to lawyers whenever I had a real estate question.
14 He always knew the answers, but was somewhat intimidating, not
15 because of his demeanor or his attitude; but because of his
16 knowledge base. I always left our conversations wondering if I
17 could master nearly the law like he had done. Plus, he carried
18 himself with the type of class that I always aspired to, but to
19 date have never reached and the Judge concludes by saying that
20 Don was a true scholar and a gentleman. Thank you.

21 **P.J. NANCY BUTTS:** Thank you. Judge McCoy.

22 **JUDGE MCCOY:** Thank you, Judge Butts. First I
23 want to applaud the Committee for the very detailed and extensive
24 resolution that they provided today along with all of their
25 comments. I did not know Don Larrabee, in fact, I'm not even

1 sure if I ever had a conversation with him; but clearly, based
2 upon everything that everyone has had to say about him that was
3 my loss.

4 Each time we -- each time I participate in
5 one of these ceremonies, it reminds me how important it is to
6 honor the members of our Bar and also gives me pause to thank and
7 encourage, especially youngers members of the Bar, how important
8 it is to get to know especially the older individuals in our Bar
9 Association. We clearly have a lot of very big shoes to fill as
10 we, unfortunately, are having many of these ceremonies this year
11 and it's clear each time we have one what a great loss it has
12 been to our Bar to have lost these individuals.

13 **P.J. NANCY BUTTS:** Thank you. Judge Linhardt.

14 **JUDGE LINHARDT:** Thank you, Judge Butts. I did
15 not have the pleasure of knowing Don Larrabee, but I have really
16 enjoyed having had the opportunity to listen to those who did
17 know him. Clearly a man who was widely liked, widely respected
18 and clearly loved. What a wonderful legacy that he left behind
19 and I join in sharing Judge McCoy's remarks that clearly it was
20 my loss and I regret not having the opportunity to have gotten to
21 know him and I just wanted to extend my sincerest condolences to
22 his family.

23 **P.J. NANCY BUTTS:** Thank you. Judge Tira.

24 **JUDGE TIRA:** Thank you, Judge Butts. I did get a
25 chance to meet Don, but it wasn't until he was ending his career,

1 as Attorney Marshall mentioned earlier, as he decided he was
2 ready to transition out of practicing and Attorney Marshall hit
3 it right on saying that it was nothing he was concerned more with
4 than what was going to happen to his clients. We repeatedly had
5 conversations about, you know, how did he want his relationship
6 with the firm to be, what are the terms, and he really could care
7 less about himself in that relationship, he really was wanting to
8 make sure that his clients had a home when he finally hung up his
9 shingle and went on to spend time with his family.

10 Through that process though he never stopped
11 the opportunity to share his wisdom of his practice or his
12 personal life and what we found out in that short period of time
13 was that we actually had a lot in common, that I had no idea that
14 not only had we gone to the same undergrad, we were members of
15 the same fraternity and we were both presidents of that
16 fraternity and I'm not positive I'd have to check with his wife;
17 but I think we might have lived in the same exact house at
18 college. It was funny to learn these things and then as we kept
19 talking we both realized we were both married to teachers and had
20 very similar experiences. I think it just spoke to his -- the
21 type of person that he was. He was so engaging in such a classy,
22 sincere way. For somebody I didn't know for so long, but in a
23 short period of time I felt like he engaged me and embraced me as
24 someone as if I had knew him for a long time. So I had the
25 utmost respect for him as not only as an attorney, but as the

1 person he was. Thank you.

2 **P.J. NANCY BUTTS:** Thank you. Just briefly, I
3 had, again, the opportunity to meet Don Larrabee when I was
4 clerking for Judge Smith because Judge Smith was involved in real
5 estate. He would often come by and talk with Judge Smith and, of
6 course, for those conversations I wasn't a part of those; but he
7 was always deferential to Wanda, Judge Smith's secretary, and, of
8 course, his law clerk and very kind, friendly, polite and once I
9 left the law clerk position and I went into practice with Charlie
10 Szybist, I did mostly real estate, title searches, bring downs,
11 and I would see him in the register and recorder's office and he
12 was just a welcome sight. Everyone just remarked how helpful he
13 was, how friendly, and so polite and if you didn't know better
14 you wouldn't know he was an attorney because he was just so easy
15 to talk with.

16 To echo what Judge McCoy has said after our
17 last memorial service I got to thinking how much history of our
18 Law Association we learn at these ceremonies and as sad a
19 circumstance as they are it just gives us the opportunity to
20 remember what wonderful members we have and what a significant
21 contribution that they have made over the years and how as
22 wonderful it is to remember them what a serious loss we will have
23 as a result. So thank you all, members of the Committee, for
24 your work and your sharing your personal memories of Don and now
25 I wanted to offer and be happy to hear any comments that any

1 members of the Bar would like to make on behalf of Don Larrabee
2 and if you could please, once again, unmute yourself so that we
3 can recognize you. Mr. Carlucci.

4 **WILLIAM CARLUCCI:** Thank you, Your Honor. May it
5 please the Court. I will be uncharacteristically brief in these
6 remarks. I took both courses that Don offered at Lycoming
7 College. I will describe him with a sentence that I very rarely
8 use in describing lawyers. He had an encyclopedic knowledge of
9 the law and I paid attention when he talked. I got -- I'm proud
10 to say that I got A's in both his courses. I found myself at
11 Temple Law School in North Philadelphia surrounded by Ivy League
12 graduates, surrounded may be an exaggeration; but it certainly
13 felt like that and I perhaps to some extent, unlike them, was
14 very well prepared for law school because I listened to every
15 word Don said and I can tell you that he was one of the very few
16 lawyers I ever met who had a thorough understanding of the areas
17 of the law that he never practiced.

18 **P.J. NANCY BUTTS:** Thank you, Mr. Carlucci.
19 Anyone else? Mr. Raker.

20 **DAVID RAKER:** Your Honor.

21 **P.J. NANCY BUTTS:** Go ahead, Mr. Raker.

22 **DAVID RAKER:** May it please the Court. I, too,
23 was a student of Don Larrabee at Lycoming College. For those of
24 us who were planning for law school or a legal career and in our
25 Paper Chase movie influenced hubris or maybe masochism it was

1 felt that if you were tough enough to get through Don Larrabee's
2 classes at Lycoming College then maybe, just maybe you're tough
3 enough to get through law school and it was very similar to many
4 law school classes. He lectured usually by walking back and
5 forth and he called us by mister or I think he called the women
6 miss at that time. I don't remember a lot of intense questioning
7 like law schools did. There was one test at the end of each
8 course as Bill said, two -- two semesters of it, Legal Principles
9 1, which was the business part and Contract Legal Principles II,
10 which was history and wills and estates and real estate. There
11 was one test at the end that it looked at issue identification
12 and issue analysis.

13 He was, as Ed said, a very good dresser and
14 he was always dressed in a suit. He was quite a stylish dresser,
15 often more than the gray or navy suits that most lawyers wore;
16 but not so excessive that he would have lost respect among other
17 members of the Bar, our profession being a rather conservative
18 dressing organization.

19 He took roll call every morning and you took
20 the class either at 8:00 or 9:00 in the morning and he -- every
21 morning he'd take roll call. He would pronounce your name and he
22 had a way of not just saying it, but sort of announcing it like
23 David Raker. He often put an emphasis at the end of his
24 sentences. It turned out after a while I figured out he was
25 doing role call alphabetically by last name although I was

1 convinced he was mistaken that he had my name mixed up in order
2 with another student, but I could never understand why Joanna
3 Strowski was named before me, R comes before S, right? Well, it
4 turns out that, of course, Don would go through it at a fairly
5 fast clip but not excessive, but fairly fast and it turns out her
6 name was Joanna Ostrowski with an O so Don was right.

7 I was inspired by Don to apply to his law
8 school alma mater with his help and support, Fordham, and I was
9 accepted though I didn't end up going there. There was quite few
10 of us there that I'm sure others among out Bar, too, took his
11 course one could of very well have been the late Kristine Waltz,
12 who was a little younger than us. She probably would have been
13 here to speak on his behalf. This course was only open to
14 juniors and seniors at the time.

15 In my practice I would run into Don
16 occasionally at real estate closings or matters involving estates
17 and he was always, as stated so often here, pleasant,
18 professional, concise and clear in what he said, just the kind of
19 attorney that everybody should be, certainly a credit to our Bar
20 and to our profession. Thank you.

21 **P.J. NANCY BUTTS:** Thank you. Mr. Musto.

22 **JOSEPH MUSTO:** Yes, Your Honor. I did not have
23 contact with Don in court because we did different things. I had
24 contact with him though in my office because he practiced near me
25 for some years and he always greeted me with the qualities that I

1 heard attested to today, kindness, he was genteel, he was warm,
2 respectful. I didn't know him well, but I knew that I liked him,
3 which was unusual.

4 I had one near contact with him in court that
5 I like to speak of. I was going in for argument and Don was
6 leaving one of the judge's chambers after an argument, which was
7 unusual for him to be in court on something and I forget who the
8 other attorney was; but we went in and I want to say that it was
9 Judge Brown; but I can't be certain, I'm sorry, not Judge Brown I
10 apologize, Judge Smith; but I can't be certain; but we sat down
11 and the Judge was just sitting there and he was mulling over what
12 had just happened and he said to the other attorney and me, you
13 know, so and so was in here and he was expressing frustration
14 with Don Larrabee and he said, I told him I said if you have a
15 problem with Don Larrabee you're the problem and I think that's
16 true and I thought that was a wonderful testament to him. So
17 he's missed. Thank you, Your Honor.

18 **P.J. NANCY BUTTS:** Thank you. Anyone else? Any
19 members of the family who would like to say a few words?

20 **BRIAN CAROSIELLI:** Hi, this is Brian Carosielli.
21 Can you hear me?

22 **P.J. NANCY BUTTS:** Yes, I can.

23 **BRIAN CAROSIELLI:** Well, first of all, I'd like to
24 thank everyone for their time today and their kind words. Don
25 meant the world to my family, my brother, my mom, my stepsister

1 and her kids and her husband and to hear his legacy and what he
2 accomplished as a lawyer and hear how he touched so many people,
3 which I never knew. I knew he taught law, but I didn't realize
4 how profound of an impact he had on the people that he taught.
5 So thank you very much for your thoughts and your kind words, it
6 meant a lot to me and my family.

7 **P.J. NANCY BUTTS:** Thank you. And, Mrs. Larrabee,
8 did you wish to speak?

9 **ANN LARRABEE:** I also wanted to say a big thank
10 you to everybody who participated today. It really meant a lot
11 to me and -- my son is going home you're emotional again, but I'm
12 very touched by what you all had to say. Thank you.

13 **P.J. NANCY BUTTS:** You're very welcome and thank
14 you for saying a few words here today. Anyone else? I don't see
15 anyone. Okay. Well, seeing as there's no one else, ladies and
16 gentlemen, this would now conclude the memorial service for Don
17 M. Larrabee, II, Esquire. I would like to thank the family,
18 members of the Law Association and friends for attending today's
19 service and then this Special Session of Court is adjourned.

20 **JUDGE BROWN:** Thank you, Judge Butts.

21 **P.J. NANCY BUTTS:** Thank you.

22 (Whereupon, the Memorial Service concluded at 5:00 p.m.)
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C E R T I F I C A T E

I hereby certify that the proceedings and the evidence are transcribed fully and accurately from the notes taken by me on the hearing of the above cause to the best of my ability and that this copy is a correct transcript of the same.

Roni Lynn Kreisher
Official Reporter
Lycoming County, PA

The foregoing record of the proceedings upon the hearing of the above cause is hereby approved and directed to be filed.

DATE

JUDGE