



1976

Memorials

North Dakota Law Review Associate Editors

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Recommended Citation

North Dakota Law Review Associate Editors (1976) "Memorials," *North Dakota Law Review*: Vol. 53 : No. 1 , Article 5.

Available at: <https://commons.und.edu/ndlr/vol53/iss1/5>

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Memorials



OLAF H. THORMODSGARD

Bordeaux, France

Former Dean of the University Law School at the University of North Dakota, Olaf H. Thormodsgard, eighty-three, died in Bordeaux, France, August 1, 1975. Funeral services were held in Bordeaux. The Dean was buried with full military honors and is interred in the family plot near that city.

Dean Thormodsgard had served as University Law School Dean from 1932 until his retirement in 1962. He first came to UND in 1932 upon being admitted to the Bar of North Dakota.

Born September 25, 1891, in Carrington, the Dean attended elementary school at Mount Vernon, South Dakota, and graduated from high school at Spokane, Washington. He was awarded his B.A. degree from Spokane College in 1910, his M.A. from Spokane College in 1910 and an M.A. from St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota, in 1916. He was granted the juris doctor degree from the University of Chicago School of Law in 1923.

He married the former Marie Bentegeat of Bordeaux, who was a French exchange student attending the University of North Dakota, in 1928, at Grand Forks. The Thormodsgards made their home in Bordeaux since the Dean retired.

Dean Thormodsgard was listed in "Who's Who in American Education," "Biographical Encyclopedia of the World," "Leaders in Education," and "Who's Who in Education."

The Dean served overseas with the U.S. Army's 91st Division in France during 1918 and 1919. He was decorated by the French Government for meritorious service. He was a past commander of the Grand Forks American Legion Post No. 6.

During World War II, he served as a member of the National War Labor Board and was the presiding officer at OPA hearings.

The Dean was a 33rd degree Mason and served as Illustrious Potentate of Kem Temple of the Shirine in Grand Forks in 1946.

He was president of the Grand Forks County Bar Association from 1948-1949 and had served as a member of the North Dakota Ju-

dicial Council and the Executive Committee of the State Bar Association of North Dakota. He was a member of the Order of Coif, National Law School Honorary Society, Bruce Inn Chapter of Phi Delta Phi law fraternity and a charter member of Alpha Sigma Chapter of Tau Kappa Epsilon, men's social fraternity at UND.

He was a founding Fellow of Fellows of the University of North Dakota Inc. and was a past president of the United Lutheran Church Council.

Dean Thormodsgard was a lifetime member of the American Bar Association having served on the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws and as Chairman of that conference for years. He was noted for his deep devotion to reformation of laws so there would be consistency and uniformity throughout the fifty states. He had received a number of citations from the ABA for his efforts in this field.

His scholarship was recognized by a wide variety of national journals and state law reviews that had published his works. Keeping the University of North Dakota Law School running through lean times was evidence of his administrative talents. The reorganization and rebuilding for the Law School's current expanded role is further evidence of the care Dean Thormodsgard took in selecting and allocating sparse money and resources for maximum effect. He was instrumental in obtaining a new library for the Law School, which was named after him long after his retirement.

He served on the Board of Legal Examiners of the U. S. Civil Service Commission and the War Labor Board during World War II, had been chairman of the important Administrative Committee at the University for twenty-four years, and was an ex-officio member of the North Dakota State Bar Association's Executive Committee.

The Dean devoted his best years to the University Law School and the North Dakota State Bar Association.

He dearly loved the students at the University, and was widely admired by them. We shall not soon see his like again.

THOMAS (TOM) M. STANNARD

Williston, N. D.

Attorney Thomas M. Stannard passed away in his sleep on March 6th, 1976, at Steamboat Springs, Colorado, where he was vacationing at a ski resort with his family. He was thirty-nine years old at the time of his death and resided with his family at 1516 Fourth Avenue East in Williston.

Tom was born May 9, 1936, the son of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Stannard of Williston.

Mr. Stannard was a 1954 graduate of Williston High School, and he went on to earn a law degree at the University of North Dakota.

At the time of his death, he was district manager for the state agency of Northwestern National Life Insurance Company of Minneapolis, with which he had been associated for twelve years.

During his active business life, he served as president of the Williston Basin Life Underwriters Association, Williams County Farm Bureau and St. Joseph's Catholic Church School PTO.

His other organizational affiliations included memberships in the Williams County Bar Association, Elks Lodge and Williston Lions Club.

He was also a former infantry officer in the U. S. Army.

He is survived by his widow, Kay; five children; both parents; three sisters; and three brothers.

CHAUNCEY T. KALDOR

Hillsboro, N. D.

Chauncey T. Kaldor died on March 2, 1976, at Hillsboro, North Dakota, where he had been a patient for four months. Chauncey was a lifetime resident of Hillsboro, having graduated from the University of North Dakota Law School in 1933, and entered into the practice of law with his father, Theodore Kaldor, a former State's Attorney and a former North Dakota Senator.

Chauncey served as State's Attorney for Traill County, for twenty-six years, beginning with the year of 1940. He also served as the Hillsboro City Attorney, an attorney for a number of school districts, and was a past president of the North Dakota State's Attorney's Association.

He was a charter member of the Kiwanis Club, organizer of the first Jaycee Chapter in Hillsboro, a member of the Congress Association, Sons of Norway, Elks and the Masonic Lodges.

Chauncey was born on January 16th, 1909, in Hillsboro, and attended Hillsboro Schools, having graduated from the University of North Dakota, in 1931, and then from the North Dakota Law School, at the University, in 1933.

The survivors of Chauncey T. Kaldor include his wife, the former Jean Thompson; two daughters, Mrs. Bradley (Georgia) Brakkee of Indianapolis, Indiana, and Laurie Kaldor-Bull of Melbourne, Australia; two sons, Dr. Bruce T. Kaldor of Sacramento, California

and Steven Kaldor of Grand Forks; two brothers, Harvey N. of Mayville, N. D., and Dr. Donald Kaldor of Ames, Iowa; one sister, Mrs. Robert (Geraldine) Vaaler of Grand Forks; and five grandchildren.

Chauncey had been a devoted worker all of his life, and spent most of his time, following his graduation, in his work and with his family.

The community, members of the family, with many friends and clients, will miss the presence of this able lawyer.

ALLEN HOFMANN

Jamestown, N. D.

Allen Hofmann and his wife were killed in a plane crash, on December 26th, 1975, near Harrison, Arkansas.

Allen Gene Hofmann was born December 8, 1948, in Jamestown, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Hofmann. He graduated from the Medina High School, from the North Dakota State University in 1970, and from the University of North Dakota Law School in 1973. He began his law practice in Jamestown in 1973.

He was a member of the Medina United Methodist Church, served as part-time instructor at Jamestown College, was a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity, chairman of the Stutsman County Red Cross, member of the Jamestown Fire Department, B.P.O. Elks 995, Rotary Club, Jamestown Fire Department Bowling Team, and of Jamestown Lodge No. 6 A.F. and A.M.

He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Hofmann, Medina; two brothers and three sisters, Aaron Hofmann, Irving, Texas; Kristie Lee Hofmann, Fargo; Corinne Hofmann, student at NDSU, Fargo; Ray and Anette Hofmann, at home, his grandparents, Mrs. Lena Job, Medina, and Mrs. Mathilda Hofmann, Jamestown.

MILTON K. HIGGINS

Bismarck, North Dakota

Attorney Milton K. Higgins of Bismarck, N. Dak., passed away on March 13th, 1976, at the age of seventy-eight years. Milton died early in the morning of March 13th, 1976, at the Bismarck Hospital.

Milton was an outstanding trial lawyer, a profound student, and

was unexcelled in real estate and riparian law. He was a familiar figure in legal circles and for many years was active in Democratic politics.

He began his career as assistant State's Attorney for Morton and Mercer Counties, serving until 1928 when he went into private practice at Golden Valley and Mandan.

He was appointed assistant Attorney General in 1933 and left that post in 1941 to join the law firm of Sullivan, Sullivan, Fleck and Higgins at Mandan. He entered a law partnership with John E. Williams at Washburn in 1946 and in 1950 went into private law practice at Bismarck. He retired from active practice in 1973.

Mr. Higgins was an unsuccessful candidate for Attorney General in 1952 and for the North Dakota Supreme Court in 1962.

He received the Order of the Coif Award from UND in 1954 and was honored as a fifty year member of the North Dakota Bar Association at the time of his retirement.

Mr. Higgins was active in community affairs, serving as president of the Mandan Lions and Rotary Clubs and was a past master of the Masonic Lodge. He was chairman on the board of the old Mandan Deaconess Hospital. He headed the State United Nations Organization.

Keenly interested in North Dakota agriculture, he had ranch property in Williams County and farmland in McLean County.

Mr. Higgins married Iris Irene Franks, a former Mandan teacher, August 23, 1938, at Marion, Iowa. He leaves his widow at 904 Fourth Street; two sons, Kent A. Higgins, Bismarck, and Bruce K. Higgins, St. Paul, Minnesota; a daughter, Mrs. John (Judy) Devney, also of St. Paul, and three grandchildren.

ALVIN FOSAAEN

Cando, North Dakota

Alvin J. Fosaaen, sixty, long time Cando attorney, died March 18th, 1976. He was born November 20, 1915, at Cando, where he was reared. He attended Minot State Teachers' College and the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks.

He entered the Army February 10, 1941, and served in the Asiatic-Pacific Theater with the 164th Infantry. He received the Bronze Star, Purple Heart and the American Service Medal. He also served with the GO 7th Headquarters 14th Corps and received the 143rd Combat Infantry Badge, Unit Citation Bronze Star and the Phillipines Liberation Ribbon Bronze Star. He attended Personal Services In-

formation Education School at Lexington, Virginia. Also, he served in the East Indies, Guadalcanal, North-South No Mans' Land, Southern Philippines and was discharged as a lieutenant at Ft. Beale, California, December 9, 1945.

He was wounded seriously in the chest in November, 1942, on Guadalcanal where he served with the 164th Infantry. He was hospitalized on Fiji Island and later rejoined his unit but the wound affected his health for the rest of his life. He received an Honorable Discharge on August 8th, 1953.

A great booster for his home town, Fosaaen arranged for a visit there in 1962 by Ratu Edward, Commissioner of the Eastern District of the Fiji Islands, who had fought on Guadalcanal beside the 164th.

Al had been a practicing attorney at Cando and member of the American Bar Association. He served as County Justice and States Attorney of Towner County, as Veterans Service Officer in 1949, on the Salvation Army Board and the Towner County Mental Health board. He was a member of the 164th Infantry Association, VFW and the American Legion. He was highly devoted to his clients, his home town and very much to his family.

Survivors include his wife; three sons, Brian, Mayville, Brent and Eric, Cando; four daughters, Mrs. Gary (Sandra) Zimmerman, Hazen, Mrs. Ed (Janelle) Bannach, California, Mrs. Bruce (Sheila) Garber and Julie Fosaaen, both of Cando; four step-children, John Gores, Riverton, Wyoming, Jerry Gores, Minot, Pat Gores, Cando and Connie Gores, Fargo; five grandchildren; two brothers, Arthur, East Jacksonville, Florida, and Erling, Concord, California, and one sister, Mrs. Sam Johnson, Eagle Bend, Minnesota.

Al was an avid fisherman, a sports lover and a great swimmer. This dedicated lawyer is missed by all who knew him.

GORDON (TOM) MILLER

Minot, North Dakota

Gordon Tom Miller, Minot attorney and Municipal Judge in Minot for twelve years, died April 1, 1976, in a hospital. He was fifty-five years of age.

Gordon was a native of Minot, born in the city on March 7, 1921, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Miller.

Following graduation from Minot High, he attended Minot State College for two years, Wahpeton School of Science and after World War II, he graduated from the University of North Dakota Law School in 1949.

During the war he served in the merchant marine on ships that operated both in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.

For some time after his graduation from Law School, Gordon was associated with his two brothers, Robert and Jim, in Miller Brothers Construction, a firm which constructed a number of homes as the city started expanding in the early 1950's. Both brothers preceded him in death.

Mr. Miller was elected Municipal Judge in Minot in 1962 and was re-elected continuously to the position until 1974. He received a special citation from a committee of the American Bar Association for traffic court procedures.

He was also in private law practice and served as a general agent for an insurance company.

In 1949, Mr. Miller was president of the North Dakota Young Republicans, in 1951, he received the Distinguished Service Award of the Minot Jaycees and also served at one time as president of the Minot Shrine Club.

Mr. Miller was a member of the Elks, Eagles, a lifetime member of the Minot Gun Club, the Star in the West Blue Lodge of the Masons and was active in the March of Dimes.

He married the former Darlene A. Burns in 1951, and is survived by his wife and four children. The family resided at 1105 Roberts Street, in Minot.

ALOYS WARTNER, JR.

Harvey, North Dakota

Aloys Wartner, Jr., died at Harvey, North Dakota, in a hospital, after suffering a heart attack, from which he did not recover.

Funeral services were held for Aloys on the 10th day of June, 1976, at the United Methodist Church, in Harvey.

Mr. Wartner was sixty-nine years of age at the time of his death, and at the time was spending his winters in Arizona and summers at his long-time place of residence, at Harvey, North Dakota.

Aloys, Jr., was born on October 6, 1906, at Harvey, and was the son of Aloys Wartner and Lillian Fitch Wartner, both of whom preceded him in death. He was a graduate of the Harvey High School, and received his law degree from the University of North Dakota, in 1934, after which he joined his father in the practice of law at Harvey and which law practice continued until after the father passed away.

From 1937 to 1941, he served as States Attorney in Wells County

and on November 19, 1938, married Doris E. Earl of Grand Forks, at Mound City, South Dakota. As commander of the Harvey National Guard unit in 1941, he served in the African, European and Mediterranean Theaters in World War II. During the war he was a judge advocate of the 47th Division and later served as a Lieutenant Colonel in the Korean Conflict. He retired from the service as a Colonel.

From 1949 to 1958, Mr. Wartner served as Harvey City Attorney and from 1957 to 1963 served in the State Senate, chairing the Judiciary Committee.

Active in community affairs, he was past master of Devotion Lodge 61, AF & AM, past commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1868 at Harvey, past district commander of the American Legion and held membership in Kem Temple of the Shrine, the Elks, Eagles, and was past president of the Kiwanis Club. He was a member of the Methodist Church and Civic Commerce Club at Harvey.

His widow survives, as do three children, Mrs. Mack (Geraldine) Graham, Devils Lake; Aloys Wartner III, Harvey; and Richard Wartner, Spokane, Washington.

Aloys was well known throughout North Dakota, had an engaging and congenial personality, enjoyed his family and his friends, and will be very much missed, especially by the people in his lifetime residence and in Wells County. Aloys had many friends who join in this time of sorrow.

BENCH

and

BAR

