



## **RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE LATE JACK B. COULTER.**

WHEREAS, the Honorable Jack B. Coulter of Roanoke, a respected public servant and attorney, died September 13, 2007; and

WHEREAS, Judge Jack B. Coulter is offered to the memory of our Association as a fine lawyer, excellent Judge and a good man; and

WHEREAS, Judge Jack B. Coulter grew up in Roanoke, graduating from Jefferson High School in 1941, where he was a catcher on the baseball team; Judge Coulter entered Washington & Lee University, leaving after his freshman year to serve in World War II; he completed tours of duty in the South Pacific as an Ensign aboard the heavy cruisers USS Vicksburg and USS Manchester; after the war he participated in Bikini Atoll atomic bomb trials aboard the USS Pennsylvania; Judge Coulter graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1946 with an engineering degree, and earned his law degree from Washington and Lee University School of Law *cum laude* in 1949; after graduation he joined the Roanoke law firm of Dodson & Pence, where he maintained a varied practice for 26 years focusing on civil trials, argued six cases before the Supreme Court of Virginia, and was elected a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers; Judge Coulter was appointed Virginia Circuit Court Judge of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Judicial Circuit in 1975, serving in the Circuit Courts for the City & County of Roanoke and the City of Salem until his retirement in 1989; upon his retirement, he was presented with the Key to the City by the Roanoke City Council; and

WHEREAS, Judge Coulter was an active community leader, he served on the Roanoke School Board, was President of the Roanoke Jaycees, President to the W&L Law School Association and was a member of the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association; he led the development of the Roanoke Valley War Memorial Committee, serving as its chairman, and championed the Memorial's theme poem, "Lest we Forget," reminding citizens never to forget the sacrifices of these service men and women who paid the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom; his diligent efforts as chairman of the Roanoke Valley War Memorial Committee resulted in the development of Roanoke's beautiful Lee Plaza War Memorial, and he was honored with the Military Order of the World Wars Patriotic Award and the Jaycees Distinguished Service Award; and,

WHEREAS, because of Judge Coulter's often single-handed efforts, the Roanoke City Courthouse is graced with award-winning and inspirational statuary, sculpture, paintings, and other artwork; and,

WHEREAS, Judge Coulter was a life long student, advocating continuing education, he earned his Masters of Judicial Process from the University of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Judge Coulter shared his love of athletics and physical activity with the youth of the Roanoke Valley, earning him the distinction as Father of the Year in 1969; he was also a church deacon, teacher and superintendent; and

WHEREAS, Judge Coulter's professional demeanor was disciplined and courtly, he is believed to be the only person in the history of the Roanoke Valley court system to celebrate April Fools Day by strategically placing rubber snakes in courthouse flowerpots; and

WHEREAS, his personal life was blessed with his loving wife and constant companion of 62 years, Jeanne Hodges Coulter; three children and their spouses, David C. Coulter

and wife, Susan, Philip C. Coulter and wife, Linda, and Kathy C. Temple and husband, Ben; brother, N. Arthur Coulter, Jr.; seven grandchildren and two step-grandchildren, for all of whom Judge Coulter was a cheerleader, a fan, and an inspiration; and,

WHEREAS, Judge Coulter will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his loving family and his numerous friends and admirers:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Roanoke Bar Association laments the passing of Honorable Jack B. Coulter, and holds his memory and his contributions to this Association, to this community, and to the cause of justice in high regard; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that copies of this resolution be furnished to the Circuit Courts of the City and County of Roanoke and the City of Salem and the United States District Court for the Western District of Virginia, Roanoke Division, with motions that the resolution be spread upon the permanent common law order books of those courts; and that copies of this resolution be furnished to his family to communicate the esteem in which the Roanoke Bar Association holds him and his memory and the Association's sorrow at his passing.

**GIVEN** under the hands of the President and Secretary of the Roanoke Bar Association and the seal of the Association this 9<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2008.

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Mark K. Cathey, President

TESTE:

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Francis H. Casola, Secretary-Treasurer