

IN MEMORIAM OF

JOHN F. SULLIVAN

RESOLUTION OF THE BLAIR COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

The undersigned Resolutions Committee, duly designated by the Blair County Bar Association to prepare and present resolutions on the death of our deceased brother, John F. Sullivan, present the following:

John Francis Sullivan was born August 17, 1932, the son of John Francis Sullivan and Dorothy Bernadine (Pennington) Sullivan, and died November 23, 2014 at Garvey Manor Nursing Home. His elementary schooling was had at Saint Mary Catholic School in Hollidaysburg; his secondary education was had at Georgetown Preparatory High School in Garret Park, Maryland, from which he graduated with honors in 1950. It was noted in his high school year book that he was known for memorizing everything. He then matriculated at Georgetown College in Washington D.C. where he was a member of the student council and from which he was graduated in 1954. Having wanting to be a lawyer from the age of 5 when his father died, John Sullivan applied and was admitted to Georgetown Law School. His attention to his studies earned him a ranking in the top ten percent of his class which was graduated in 1957.

While in his third year of law school, he met the love of his life, Roseann L. Dienna, in March 1957. After a whirlwind courtship, they were engaged in May 1957 and then married August 3, 1957 at Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church on tenth and Dickinson Streets in Philadelphia. Stating to his new mother-in-

law as a they were leaving for their honeymoon that someday they would return with 7 kids and a dog, John and Roseann proceeded to fulfill that prediction with the births of Shawn Patrick, Timothy Michael, Terrence Brian, Kevin Daniel, Christopher Blaine, Sheila Kathleen, and Noreen Moira.

John was presented for admission before the Pennsylvania Supreme Court on May 26, 1958 by his mentor, Robert C. Haberstroh, and then the Blair County Bar Association on June 2, 1958. From June 1958 to June 1960, he practiced in the office of Robert Haberstroh. During this period he was exposed to the talents not only of Robert Haberstroh, but his associates of Leo Dodson, Terrence Wharton, Alexander A. Notopoulos, Amos Davis, and John R. (Babe) Strawmire. In June 1960, John decided to open his own office at 1414 12th Avenue. In 1969, he moved that office to 2229 Broad Avenue, and then to 1701 5th Avenue. Beginning in 1970, his burgeoning practice required the hiring of associates. Although many lawyers have benefitted from their association with John in the practice of law, his longest professional relationships have been with R. Thomas Forr, Jr., William J. Stokan, James R. Huff, II, and his sons, Shawn and Tim.

John's respect for the practice of law was exhibited by his professionalism. His preparation was always detailed. He was dedicated to the dignity of the courts and sought to preserve the honor of the courts whenever he appeared before them. Although he was a zealous advocate for his clients, he never allowed any legal matter, whether litigation or negotiation, to obscure the collegiality which he had with his fellow bar members. His practice was officially that of a general practitioner, but his

primary areas of practice were wills and estates, personal injury, insurance defense, and workers compensation. With the greatest of pride, however, was his service for many years as the solicitor for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown.

John often stated that the diocesan solicitorship was the highest acknowledgment of not only his legal skills, but also his commitment to and practicing of the tenants of his faith. He could think of no greater professional honor. So great was his commitment to his faith, as learned by his many years of education at the hands of the Jesuits at Georgetown, that he insisted that each of his children receive a Catholic education. In his eyes, his moral obligation to provide that did not cease with high school graduation, but was to continue through college, resulting in each child enrolling in and being graduated from a Catholic college.

All of the preceding background of our brother, John, should not eclipse his sociability. It was not uncommon for John to partake of refreshments with opposing counsel when matters would end late in the day. He had a hearty laugh. He was never known to lose his sense of humor, even when he might be the subject of a joke. It was rare to ever hear him utter a disparaging word. He was always generous with his time and knowledge.

What was written about his father in his resolution upon his death can be written of John. That is "that he kept faith with ever member of the Bar. It was unnecessary to have his agreements in writing; his word was as lasting as any written stipulation, and was a positive guarantee of performance in the exact manner as given." So great was his influence that his example contributed highly to the passing of the professional

legacy to two sons, making them the fourth generation of lawyers in the family, and one granddaughter, thus constituting the fifth generation of lawyers in the family.

For all the demands made by the practice of law, John still found time to relax. Among his favorite activities were foreign travels with Roseann, family vacations, family baseball games of which he was all-time pitcher, family football games in which he was all-time quarterback, Penn State football games with family and friends, and the weekly Saturday night dinners with Roseann at a local restaurant. He was a wonderful father and doted on his grandchildren.

This committee notes its disappointment that the laudatory expressions contained in this resolution were not made to our dear brother, John, during his life. Though nothing can compare with the opportunity to offer praise to one so deserving during his life, we take solace in the knowledge that this tribute to John, as insignificant as it might be in fully describing the man and lawyer that was John F. Sullivan, will be made known to the public by its inclusion with the public records of our Court of Common Pleas. May it serve as an inspiration to future generations of lawyers to act in accordance with the principles which our brother John emulated.

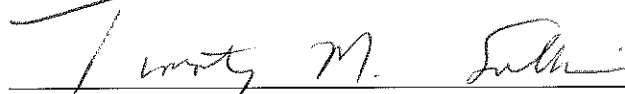
John lost his wife, Roseann, on May 12, 2011. He is survived by his 7 children and 14 grandchildren.

Having authored this resolution, this committee of the Blair County Bar Association unanimously moves that this resolution be adopted as a resolution of the Blair County Bar Association in memoriam of our departed brother, John F. Sullivan. Further, this resolution shall be made a permanent part of the records of the Court of

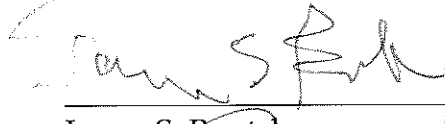
Common Pleas of Blair County. A copy shall be forwarded to each of his 7 children:
Shawn P. Sullivan, Timothy M. Sullivan, Terrence B. Sullivan, Kevin D. Sullivan,
Christopher B. Sullivan, Sheila K. Ramsay, and Noreen M. Wesner.



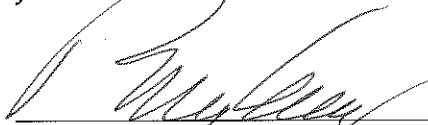
Shawn P. Sullivan, Co-Chairman



Honorable Timothy M. Sullivan, Co-Chairman



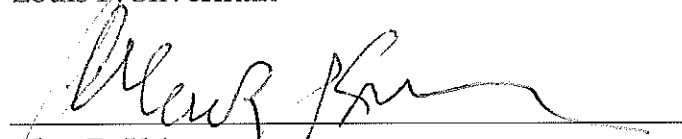
James S. Routh



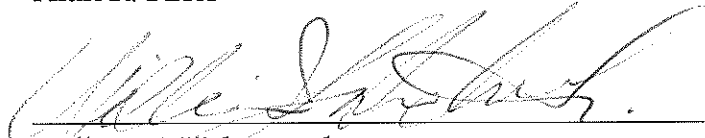
Benjamin I. Levine, Jr.



Louis P. Silverman



Alan R. Krier



William J. Haberstroh



R. Thomas Forr, Jr.

COMMITTEE

Dated: 11/26/2014