

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF LYCOMING COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
IN RE: MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR YVONNE H. CAMPBELL, ESQUIRE

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

BEFORE: THE LYCOMING COUNTY BENCH AND BAR

DATE: Thursday, December 12, 2019; 4:00 p.m.

PLACE: Lycoming County Courthouse
Courtroom No. 1
48 West Third Street
Williamsport, Pennsylvania

REPORTED BY:

LINDA S. WETTLAUFER
Official Court Reporter
Lycoming County Courthouse

Linda S. Wettlaufer, RMR
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P R O C E E D I N G S

1
2 JUDGE BUTTS: Good afternoon. Welcome everyone to
3 this special session of Court. This afternoon we have the
4 privilege of holding a memorial service for a member of our bar
5 association and an officer of the law association, Yvonne
6 Campbell.

7 We recognize and appreciate the attendance of members
8 of her family, acknowledging specifically her father,
9 Dr. Messeih; her mother, Jean Messeih, other supporting family
10 members and friends.

11 In October of this year, I appointed a committee to
12 prepare a report and resolution recognizing the life and
13 accomplishments of Yvonne Campbell. The chairman of the
14 committee is the Honorable Matthew Brann of the United States
15 District Court; and the members of the committee are Brian
16 Bluth, Jessica Harlow, Jennifer Heverly, and Robert Hoffa, all
17 attorney members of our law association.

18 I now recognize the Chair, Judge Brann, to present the
19 committee report and resolution, please.

20 JUDGE BRANN: May it please the Court, ladies and
21 gentlemen, members of the bench and bar. The Honorable Nancy L.
22 Butts, President Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Lycoming
23 County of the 29th Judicial District, by Order dated
24 September 16, 2019, appointed the undersigned Committee to draft
25 Resolutions memorializing the life of Yvonne Helen Stuart

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1 Messeih Campbell, Esquire and to submit the same to this
2 Honorable Court at a Special Resolution Memorial Service
3 conducted this date.

4 The undersigned Committee submits the following
5 Resolutions for this Honorable Court's consideration:

6 1. Yvonne Helen Stuart Messeih Campbell, Esquire, a
7 member of the Bar of this Court since 2008, died unexpectedly on
8 August 25, 2019.

9 2. Yvonne was the wife of Donald Campbell and the
10 mother of two children, Dahlia and Broderick.

11 3. Yvonne was born on July 13, 1979, in Johnstown,
12 Pennsylvania, the daughter of Dr. Adel Messeih and Jean Messeih.

13 4. Yvonne was a member of the Trinity Episcopal
14 Church, Williamsport, Pennsylvania.

15 5. Yvonne graduated from the Williamsport High School
16 in 1997 and from Bucknell University in 2001 with a Bachelor of
17 Arts degree in Business Administration.

18 6. Yvonne was employed at New York Life Insurance
19 Company in New York, New York, between 2001 and 2004.

20 7. Yvonne also had experience as a paralegal and as a
21 summer associate with the McCormick Law Firm, as an intern with
22 the Lycoming County District Attorney's Office, and as a
23 certified legal intern with North Penn Legal Services prior to
24 and during law school.

25 8. Yvonne then enrolled at the University of

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1 Pittsburgh School of Law from which she graduated Cum Laude with
2 a Juris Doctorate in 2008.

3 9. Yvonne returned to Lycoming County after
4 graduation from law school and secured a position as a law clerk
5 to the late Honorable James F. McClure, Jr., United States
6 District Judge for the Middle District of Pennsylvania. She
7 held this position until Judge McClure's death in December of
8 2010.

9 10. Following Judge McClure's death, Yvonne served as
10 a law clerk to the late Honorable Malcolm Muir, United States
11 District Judge, until his death in July 2011.

12 11. Yvonne then served as senior law clerk to me from
13 January 2013 until her untimely death.

14 12. Yvonne was active in the Lycoming Law Association
15 and served as a member of the Executive Committee. She also
16 briefly served as a member of the Board of Directors of North
17 Penn Legal Services.

18 13. Yvonne periodically served as an adjunct
19 professor at the Pennsylvania College of Technology,
20 Williamsport, Pennsylvania, where she taught paralegal classes.

21 14. Yvonne's professional accomplishments, while
22 significant, paled by comparison to her commitment to her
23 family, most particularly to her children. She was an
24 attentive, devoted, and loving mother who tried to plan nearly
25 all of her professional and social engagements around her

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1 children and their activities.

2 15. Yvonne's legal acumen was recognized and
3 appreciated by the federal judges for whom she clerked. She
4 also radiated a sunny, vibrant personality that made her a
5 pleasure to work with, encounter, or simply be around.

6 16. Yvonne's devotion to her family was recognized
7 and appreciated by the entire community.

8 17. Yvonne is survived by her husband, Donald
9 Campbell, her two children, Dahlia and Broderick Campbell, her
10 mother Jean S. Messeih, and her father and step-mother, Dr. Adel
11 Messeih and Ellen Pletcher.

12 NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved, that we, the
13 undersigned, joined by the Bar of Lycoming County, do recognize
14 the passing of Yvonne Helen Stuart Messeih Campbell, Esquire and
15 recommend adopting the following resolutions:

16 BE IT RESOLVED, that in the passing of Yvonne Helen
17 Stuart Messeih Campbell, Esquire there has been a loss to the
18 Bar of Lycoming County of an outstanding member who represented
19 the best principles of the legal profession; a loss to the
20 community of an active and unselfish citizen; a loss to her
21 family of a loving wife, mother and child; and a loss to her
22 friends of a talented and always interesting companion.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of these
24 Resolutions be spread upon the records of this Court, that
25 copies of the same be sent to her widower, children, and

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1 parents.

2 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this Court and the Bar
3 hereby extend to her widower, to her children, and to her
4 parents a deep and heartfelt expression of sympathy.

5 Respectfully submitted by me, Brian J. Bluth, Esquire;
6 Jessica L. Harlow, Esquire, Jennifer L. Heverly, Esquire, and
7 Robert A. Hoffa, Esquire.

8 Your Honor, I'm going to hand that up to you if I may.

9 JUDGE BUTTS: Thank you.

10 JUDGE BRANN: So that is a very lawyerly, formal
11 discussion of Yvonne, all of which is accurate. So let me speak
12 just a moment extempore about Yvonne. She, as I noted, became
13 my law clerk in January of 2013.

14 So I knew her professionally and personally for six
15 and a half years, relatively brief period. And I think most
16 people here knew her, some very well professionally, intimately;
17 and I'm one of those people privileged to know her well.

18 She was as advertised to me when I hired her. And so
19 to explain for those of you who don't understand the intricacies
20 of the federal judiciary, which is, well, somewhat peculiar for
21 one thing; but on the death of a district judge, other active
22 judges and sometimes senior judges of the Federal Court then
23 take over the docket of those cases.

24 So she had been hired as Judge McClure's clerk when
25 she graduated from law school. And Judge McClure was very ill,

1 and he told her he was very ill. But if you knew Judge McClure,
2 who was a gentlemanly man if there ever was one, soldiered on
3 for two and a half years though he was sort of dying by degree
4 of cancer.

5 And when he passed away, just before Christmas in
6 2010, now nine years ago, his docket of cases then passed to
7 other active judges on my Court. And so she became known to a
8 number of now my colleagues mostly in the Harrisburg division of
9 the Court.

10 And then she was persuaded by the then Chief Judge of
11 my Court, Chief Judge Yvette Kane, to go upstairs to the fourth
12 floor to what are now my chambers and serve as Judge Malcolm
13 Muir's clerk.

14 Yvonne was hesitant to do that. Judge Muir had a
15 fearsome reputation. And Yvonne was afraid of him even though
16 at that point he was 95. But she went up and, as a number of
17 people who encountered Judge Muir more intimately, was, of
18 course, charmed by him.

19 I mean, he's a brilliant man. But he was really a
20 delightful person and a charming person. And he was very old
21 and very frail, and he was right on top of things. Because I
22 said to Yvonne, well, how was he.

23 I mean, I would see him at the Ross Club or I'd see
24 him, you know, walking around somewhere; and he's all stooped
25 over. And you wonder, well, he's terribly frail. She said, oh,

1 no, mentally he's fine and really a pleasure to deal with.

2 So she worked for him for a number of months until he
3 died, substantially older than Judge McClure. He died in the
4 summer of 2011. And, again, some of those cases, he was
5 managing most of the security docket for the Federal Court for
6 the Middle District, passed along to these active judges.

7 So after I was nominated and my nomination was
8 pending, she reached out to me. She sent me a letter. And she
9 had reached out to Judge Kane and said would it be appropriate
10 for me to write to Mr. Brann. He's not on the bench. And, I
11 mean, it's not clear that he's even gonna be confirmed; but I
12 express an interest in becoming his clerk. Judge Kane said it's
13 perfectly fine. Please do that.

14 So she sent me this lovely letter and a resume. And I
15 reached out to her, and I said I'll get back to you if this
16 process, this confirmation process, is ultimately successful,
17 which after a series of about six months it was.

18 And so when I was indeed confirmed, I then called my
19 colleagues that she had noted having spent some time with. And
20 they all said, about four of them said, oh, she's terrific.
21 That's the person you should hire. She's just terrific. She's
22 very bright. She's very attentive. She's very diligent. She's
23 just a pleasure to work with and that would be a very good hire
24 for you to make.

25 So on the second day I think that I was here I made

1 arrangements. She came down. I interviewed her, and I hired
2 her on the spot. And she was a great interview, and it was
3 evident to me that everything that had been advertised to me by
4 my colleagues was true. And she was terribly diligent.

5 When I came on the bench, we had been down -- for
6 those of you who have practiced in the federal courts, we had
7 been down three judges. And the judge that I succeeded was
8 Judge Thomas Vanaskie. He had been elevated to the Court of
9 Appeals.

10 So there was nobody doing Judge Vanaskie's work. It
11 just had to be spread amongst the other judges. It was, for us,
12 a judicial crisis; and for some of the attorneys who are present
13 and practiced before me and before my colleagues, you know what
14 that situation as like in 2011, 2012, beginning of 2013.

15 We were terribly behind. And I inherited a number
16 of -- I mean, the first day I got there, there was 250 new
17 cases. And they were all old. They were all old. Motions had
18 been pending for months and months and months.

19 And Yvonne got right to it. I mean, if you knew her
20 at all, number one, you realized that she was very, very bright.
21 She was a very quick study, and she was very disciplined and
22 very organized.

23 And I pride myself on trying to be those things as
24 well. I think I'm organized. Not by a long-shot with Yvonne.
25 She had the spreadsheets, everything organized. And she just

1 did a terrific service for me the entire time that I was on the
2 bench and was associated with her, particularly in that first
3 year working on old motions, prioritizing things. She just
4 grasped that quickly.

5 Some lawyers, as you know, are organized; and some
6 aren't. And you figure that out right away. Judges, too, I
7 think in some cases. I'm not looking at Judge Lovecchio. I
8 just -- Judge, I just glanced in your direction.

9 MS. LOVECCHIO: No. If the shoe fits.

10 JUDGE BRANN: But if you are organized and you are
11 disciplined about these things, you get a lot of things done.
12 And Yvonne really was that. She also just had a good mind. I
13 think she had decided somewhere along the line that this was the
14 right life for her, professionally speaking.

15 It's a insular sort of life. I think it's more
16 insular than -- I've not been a common pleas judge. But my job
17 and I think as a clerk is even more insular than a Common Pleas
18 judge. You're isolated from society, I would argue, even more
19 so probably.

20 Much of the work that we do is very intellectual work,
21 and Yvonne caught on to that immediately. It didn't matter if
22 it was criminal, which she really enjoyed, or whether it was
23 some of the more complex civil matters I dealt with. She was
24 just very adroit in moving between those cases be it civil or
25 criminal.

1 And she liked, I think, to some degree the solitude of
2 a judge's chambers. You come into my chambers; sometimes it's
3 just deathly quiet. Everybody is working. No noise. And that
4 suited her, I think, intellectually well. She liked that. It's
5 not for everybody, but I think it was certainly for her.

6 But professionally you couldn't say enough about her.
7 She was just a really ideal person to have working for you if
8 you were a busy judge.

9 Personally, she was just a very kind person. We're
10 not all kind. This profession does not always lend itself to
11 kindness or, if it does, it's weaned out of you a bit in law
12 school. You practice for awhile and some more of it is weaned
13 out, and some people become pretty unkind.

14 That was not Yvonne. Yvonne was a very, very just a
15 lovely person to deal with. She had a beautiful personality.
16 She is remembered I think -- somebody said, a member of my
17 staff, she has a beautiful smile; and she was just very
18 gracious. But that's how many of you will remember her, just a
19 wonderful smile, vibrant personality. So she was really a
20 pleasure to deal with in chambers which is, again, an intimate
21 setting.

22 I have three law clerks. I have a courtroom deputy;
23 and I have my court reporter, Lori Fausnaught. That's a small
24 group of people that you work with every day. Everybody has to
25 get along. And Yvonne was, and I think Lori would agree, kind

1 of the glue that she just got on with people very well. She was
2 a very gracious person. She was just a very nice person to have
3 around in addition to the fact that she was a very skillful
4 person as an attorney.

5 So her death at 40, you know, is very devastating in
6 any number of ways. But that is a person that I would hope to
7 have really a long-term association with. You assumed she would
8 be with me for, you know, potentially decades depending on my
9 life span and my willingness to keep the job. That didn't work
10 out. So that's a terrible tragedy for all of us, most
11 particularly for her family. But I also think professionally
12 for me and for my extension, for my staff.

13 So I know that the other members of the committee
14 would like to make some remarks. And I think they may do so
15 more or less in the order, Judge, that we have lined that up
16 with the committee. Thank you for your attention.

17 JUDGE BUTTS: Thank you. Mr. Bluth.

18 MR. BLUTH: You know, as I've gotten older I've come
19 to appreciate that there are some things that happen in life
20 that defy understanding. In law school we're trained, and many
21 of us are highly skilled, in asking that question or line of
22 questions or series of questions that lead us to a series of
23 facts from which we tell a story. A story that gets you from
24 beginning to end in a logical and reasoned way.

25 But the human experience doesn't follow such skilled

1 training. And human life doesn't necessarily follow such logic.
2 There are some things that we just can't explain, but we have to
3 learn how to deal with. I have also learned over time that
4 conjecture and speculation are inadequate and largely
5 inappropriate substitutes for that.

6 You know, I miss my friend. I miss her infectious
7 smile. I miss the energy she brought to every conversation. I
8 miss her on my Inns of Court team and the costumes she brought.
9 I miss her has Judge Gray's daughter, which happened more than
10 once, in full costume, once with feather boa.

11 I regret that I didn't take the time to spend more
12 time with her. These are the things I will remember. I will
13 remember her forever with love and with respect. Thank you.

14 JUDGE BUTTS: Thank you. Ms. Harlow.

15 MS. HARLOW: Good afternoon, everyone. When I was
16 asked to serve on this committee, my initial reaction was I was
17 daunted. How do you describe Yvonne in just a few short
18 minutes? But then I remembered I was gonna be in a room full of
19 her family and her friends, and I don't need to tell you what a
20 wonderful person she was. You all know that.

21 So to echo a little bit of Judge Brann, I chose to
22 focus my short remarks on one of my favorite aspects of Yvonne,
23 which is her kindness. She had such a genuine heart, and she
24 was so genuinely kind to absolutely everybody she met. And you
25 don't see that a lot today. But it was a quality that Yvonne

1 had in spades.

2 She was one of the busiest people I know. She had a
3 full-time job. She had children and a husband. She had family
4 members. But she took the time out of her busy schedule to ask
5 people how they were doing.

6 And even more importantly than that, she listened to
7 the answers. And then when you would run into her a couple
8 months later, she would remember that conversation; and she
9 would ask you how your son was doing in his sporting event or
10 how that issue you had been talking about resolved.

11 And you just don't find people like that, I think,
12 especially in this profession where we allow ourselves to become
13 so overburdened with work and far too busy answering e-mails or
14 addressing the next crisis. But that was never Yvonne. Yvonne
15 made time for everybody.

16 And as her colleagues and her friends, I can think of
17 no better way to keep her with us and honor her memory than by
18 trying to be more like her in our lives and in our practices, to
19 be genuinely kind to each other, to take the time to ask each
20 other about our lives and then listen to the answers just as
21 Yvonne showed us how to do.

22 In the law there are very few certainties, but I think
23 at least these two things I can say with absolute certainty.
24 Our lives and our profession will not be the same without
25 Yvonne, and we are all better people for having known and loved

1 her. Thank you.

2 JUDGE BUTTS: Thank you. Ms. Heverly.

3 MS. HEVERLY: Thank you. Maybe to make it slightly
4 easier for myself, because I think I'm going to have a hard time
5 making it through this, I decided that I would like to read to
6 you something I wrote about Yvonne in 2007, after I had only
7 known her for three months.

8 She was an intern in our office at Legal Services.
9 And when I came across this letter, the thing that was most
10 striking to me was that all the things I said about her having
11 only known her for three months were true throughout all of the
12 years that I knew her afterward.

13 I thought it was so appropriate when Judge Brann said
14 that the law has a way of sort of beating that out of you, the
15 kindness and the understanding for another person's point of
16 view. When you're fighting with people all day, you can start
17 to really get your back up and not let it back down.

18 But for Yvonne, remarkably, when I knew her on the
19 Executive Committee of the Law Association, all of the things
20 that I knew about her in 2007 were still true. And I thought
21 that that was amazing. So I just want to share with you, this
22 is a letter she asked me to write when she was applying for the
23 federal clerkship. And hopefully I'll make it through.

24 Ms. Messeih is undoubtedly the most motivated and
25 talented law student I have worked with at Legal Services. She

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1 took each task seriously, no matter how mundane. Because we
2 gave her a lot of mundane things to do.

3 She thought very creatively about issues and remedies.
4 Her questions were always insightful and showed that she was
5 considering each facet of a case very carefully.

6 Her performance in court, because she was a certified
7 legal intern as a law student who could practice in court after
8 her second year, was remarkable for a second-year law student.
9 She was even complimented by opposing counsel for her litigation
10 skills after an especially complicated hearing.

11 One of the most unique skills Ms. Messeih brought to
12 her work was experience. Her prior employment as a paralegal in
13 a private firm and as an intern in the DA's office broadened her
14 understanding of legal problems and helped her cope easily with
15 the demands of legal work, including case management, rule
16 compliance, communicating with clients and preparation for
17 court.

18 Those experiences also gave her connections in the
19 legal community that are invaluable for a new attorney. Ms.
20 Messeih is also an asset to her co-workers. She is friendly,
21 positive, outgoing, tolerant.

22 The environment at our office is sometimes very
23 chaotic, and she was also helpful and cooperative with
24 last-minute requests and emergencies. In short, I cannot
25 imagine a more qualified candidate for a federal clerkship than

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1 Ms. Messeih. Thank you all.

2 JUDGE BUTTS: Thank you. And Mr. Hoffa.

3 MR. HOFFA: Thank you, Your Honor. Let me see if I
4 can lighten this up a little bit. My exposure to Yvonne was
5 basically twofold. One was obviously a lot of federal work that
6 I did. I would run into her there professionally.

7 The other was personally. For those of you who don't
8 know, our office is at Sixth and Pine, which is borderline the
9 hood. And my office is on the first floor, and I have these
10 windows there. And it's summer, and I see Yvonne Campbell
11 walking past my office.

12 And I'm thinking to myself, where in the world is
13 Yvonne going in this neighborhood. So I didn't go outside to
14 encounter her, but it happened again a few days later. So I'm
15 thinking to myself, what's she doing. I mean, it's not like
16 there's a restaurant or anything by us. There's nothing
17 except, you know, this daycare center.

18 So about the fourth time I saw her I went outside. I
19 said Yvonne, what are you doing. She said, well, my children,
20 you know, they go to this daycare program up here; and she said
21 I enjoy the walk.

22 So we hadn't talked about her with her kids. So I saw
23 her coming back past my window, and you could just see the big
24 smile on her face and the children walking with her or the child
25 walking with her. And that was Yvonne. She was just -- I said

1 just drive over, park in my parking lot, no big deal. No, she
2 took the walk with the kids.

3 The other experience, as I say, I dealt with her even
4 when she was with Judge McClure as a law clerk; but we had an
5 initial situation with Judge Brann. We had a case that had 27
6 defendants.

7 And this thing was going to be scheduled months and
8 months out. And there were deadlines in place. And as we got
9 closer to the trial, many of us said, no, we're definitely going
10 to trial.

11 My Defendant, in particular, maintained his innocence
12 from day one; and we were having a federal trial. We went from
13 27 to 13. We went from 13 to 11, 11 down to 7. And we're a
14 week away from trial, and the prosecution offered my guy a
15 sentence that was basically time-served.

16 So we go in to enter the plea. And Yvonne is there;
17 and she says to me, Rob, there's a problem at your office. I
18 said what are you talking about. She goes, well, I came past
19 there morning; and I saw pigs flying. I'm like, huh? You told
20 me your guy would never plead guilty until pigs fly. Well, I
21 saw them.

22 So those are my memories of Yvonne. She was such a
23 kind person and even to the defendants. You couldn't have asked
24 for a better person or a better law clerk. Thank you.

25 JUDGE BUTTS: Thank you. And thank you all very much.

1 The Court approves the report and resolution of the committee
2 and enters the following order:

3 **O R D E R**

4 **AND NOW**, this 12th day of December, 2019, in
5 consideration of the resolutions presented by the Committee
6 appointed to draft resolutions in the death of Yvonne H.
7 Campbell, the said resolutions are adopted.

8 It is **ORDERED AND DIRECTED** that the resolutions
9 herewith submitted and attached be adopted as an official
10 expression of the Lycoming County Law Association and this Court
11 and that the same be spread upon the records of the Court and
12 the copies of this resolution be delivered to the family of
13 Yvonne Campbell.

14 And it is further **ORDERED AND DIRECTED** that said
15 resolution be entered at large upon the record of the Court and
16 that it be printed in the Lycoming Reporter.

17 I would now like to call upon my colleagues if anyone
18 would like to say a few words about Yvonne.

19 JUDGE LOVECCHIO: Sure, I will. I don't think my
20 vocabulary is sufficient to describe how tragic a loss she is to
21 our community, to our professional community, to our personal
22 community.

23 I know my vocabulary is not nearly sufficient enough
24 to describe what kind of person I thought she was and what I
25 thought of her. I'm a little mad at her because I told her that

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1 I wanted her to speak at my memorial because I was so impressed
2 with so many aspects of her personality.

3 You know, when you become a judge, everyone laughs at
4 your jokes. Everyone sticks around while you're telling
5 stories. Everyone answers your phonecalls. Everyone makes you
6 feel important. The thing that I loved about her the most was
7 she made me feel important because of who I was, not because I
8 was a judge but because I had been interested in a particular
9 issue.

10 We would talk about something at Inns of Court or she
11 would mention something to my wife at an Executive Committee
12 meeting and the next thing you know I'd get a couple phone calls
13 from her a day later.

14 And one of you talked about how she would remember
15 things. You wouldn't see her for awhile. I would see her out
16 in front of the courthouse sometimes. But she always, always,
17 made me feel that I was important to her for who I was or for
18 what I thought or for how I acted.

19 And, you know, that's -- you can't replace those type
20 of people. There's something so genuine about them and so
21 sincere. And I think, Judge Brann, you used the term radiated.
22 She just radiated with so many wonderful aspects of her
23 personality.

24 And I really -- I miss her. I do. And it was weird
25 because I would see her around. I'd see her at Wegman's or I'd

1 see her somewhere else, and she lightened up my day. No matter
2 how miserable I was, no matter how bad I felt, no matter what
3 was going on, when you got done speaking with her you were
4 happier.

5 And if that is the legacy that she left, what a
6 wonderful legacy because she left this world and made it a much
7 better place while she was here.

8 JUDGE BUTTS: Anybody? Go ahead.

9 JUDGE LINHARDT: I just want to say I didn't have the
10 pleasure of knowing Yvonne. And I apologize for being late. I
11 was tied up in court obviously. I did get to hear some of this
12 as well as, obviously, the judge's remarks.

13 And what really strikes me about these types of
14 opportunities to have memorials is that you realize that there
15 are some people who have the ability to impact other people's
16 lives, and she clearly was that kind of person. And it's why
17 people like Yvonne are gonna continue to live on, even though
18 she's not with us any longer.

19 JUDGE MCCOY: I also, like Judge Linhardt, didn't
20 really know Yvonne. But the one thing I do want to say is I
21 think that the committee -- this is probably one of the most
22 beautiful presentations that I've seen at a memorial service
23 from the bench or even as an attorney. I think you've all done
24 a very incredible job of giving us who didn't know her a picture
25 of who she was.

1 JUDGE BUTTS: I have the great good fortune of knowing
2 her in a couple of other ways other than in this job and as her
3 as a lawyer. And let me first say what struck me -- and
4 everybody knows this that's involved in Inns of Court because
5 I've mentioned it before is when -- and I forget who it was that
6 even said it. But it struck me that when she was gonna become
7 the president of the Law Association that her goal was to
8 support her initiative with civility.

9 And so I usually get together a team to do the Inns of
10 Court presentation first. And I said this is my way to honor
11 Yvonne is to say let's have this conversation and let's remember
12 her but let's have the conversation in her absence to keep her
13 with us, just as Judge Linhardt said.

14 But I was fortunate enough to know her in two ways.
15 And for some of you that don't know this, I love doing yoga. I
16 teach yoga. And when Yvonne was pregnant I believe with her
17 first child she would come to yoga class, and she used to
18 complain. I mean, so I'm hearing about how sweet and kind and
19 everything; and she was miserable.

20 Her back bothered her. She just couldn't get
21 comfortable. I mean, it was prenatal yoga, so this is, you
22 know, where you're really trying to be healthy and everything.
23 And you could just see it on her face, like oh, my God, I can't.
24 You knew that she loved this child and she was so wonderful to
25 be doing this for herself, but she was just miserable. And I

1 just felt so bad for her.

2 But then when it was all over, it was the same person
3 that you all talked about. She was just so -- it sounds corny
4 to say she floated; but she did because she was so happy that
5 she was gonna become a mom.

6 And to have that connection then of lawyer and judge
7 that we're talking just about that we had that unique
8 circumstance that we knew each other from outside the yoga
9 class, that was really fun.

10 But then also I knew her as an instructor at Penn
11 College. She taught legal research and writing. I taught
12 criminal law. Imagine that. And we used to go to these adjunct
13 meetings, and she was so interested in educating her students
14 and nurturing them.

15 And so as I'm hearing kindness, I'm writing down
16 nurturing. That is what always Yvonne struck me as, very
17 nurturing. She had this incredible generosity of spirit that
18 she always wanted to take whatever time was needed to explain
19 something or to help somebody understand something just a little
20 bit more thoroughly or to help them see it from a different way.

21 And I think kind of as an off-shoot to what Judge
22 Brann said, sometimes we need to get stuff done. We need to get
23 it in a hurry. We need to get a lot done in a very short period
24 of time. And I don't think that mattered to her.

25 I think what mattered to her was quality, compassion,

1 generosity of spirit; and I don't think no matter how many years
2 she would be an attorney or a law clerk you were gonna beat that
3 out of her because that was her mission in life, was to make
4 sure that people were heard and that people were seen.

5 And I think sometimes we forget that. And just
6 as Brian Bluth said, it makes you then sit back and think of all
7 of the times you wish you would have shared that with someone,
8 especially her, to say what a unique person she was and how
9 horribly she will be missed.

10 So I can't imagine, members of her family, what you're
11 going through only tangentially knowing her. But I am so, so
12 terribly sorry for your loss.

13 So it would be at this time that if there are any
14 members of the bar or any family or friends who would like to
15 speak on anything, please take this moment to do so. Go ahead.

16 MS. SHARON KINLEY: I would like to say I knew Yvonne.
17 I wish I had more time with her. She was the epitome of
18 charisma.

19 JUDGE BUTTS: Thank you very much.

20 MS. LORI FAUSNAUGHT: I worked with Yvonne since she
21 came on board with Judge McClure, and she became one of my very
22 best friends. Her loyalty unsurpassed. I miss her very much.

23 JUDGE BUTTS: Thank you.

24 THE COURT: Mr. Cronin.

25 MR. CRONIN: If I may, Your Honor. So I've known

1 Yvonne for several years until her passing. And, interestingly,
2 I saw her a couple days before at I think Williamsport Welcomes
3 The World or First Friday. It was just a couple days prior to
4 her death.

5 And I can actually remember our interaction. She's
6 trying to walk through three or four lines over to get to a food
7 cart. And I'm, of course, my typical razzing self of picking on
8 people.

9 But she actually comes to a complete stop and starts
10 talking, you know. She doesn't walk away and just say something
11 as she's walking away. She comes to a complete stop. She looks
12 at you. She pays attention.

13 I've had this interaction with her hundreds of times I
14 would say. She was in Mommy and Me swimming at the Y. And I
15 think I would probably stay 15, 20 minutes after Mommy and Me
16 swimming because she made you feel like you were the most
17 important person when you were talking.

18 Now, there's many times we as people when you start
19 talking, you know, we start thinking about other things,
20 floating away, our minds are elsewhere, we're not really there
21 in the conversation. And Yvonne was always there.

22 I had the chance to be on the Executive Committee with
23 her for the Law Association. Same exact thing. She would show
24 up early. She would be the last one to leave. And while she
25 was there she was there. Nothing else was distracting her,

1 nothing else was a bother. Even if she had significant issues
2 anywhere else, she was there.

3 I find that when I'm an attorney doing practice and
4 when I'm at meetings, I could learn more from the way Yvonne was
5 throughout all of her interactions. Just using that type of
6 attention would be the type of attention that I know everyone
7 really needs and deserves when they're around you. And she just
8 made you feel like the most important person, and I know I'm
9 going to miss that type of feeling that she gave me.

10 JUDGE BUTTS: Thank you.

11 MS. TAMMY TAYLOR: I'm Tammy Taylor. I work in the
12 Federal Public Defender's Office, so I knew Yvonne
13 professionally mostly and also at Law Association events and Inn
14 of Court events. But the one thing that she helped me with that
15 I just wanted to share -- and she didn't really help, Judge, let
16 me just say that.

17 My cousin served 20 years in federal prison. And in
18 December the First Step Act came out, and he was eligible for
19 relief. And the government agreed that he could get a
20 time-served sentence.

21 And on April 1st of this year, the government agreed,
22 and so it was April Fool's Day. And I was like is this really
23 real? Is he really getting out of prison? And he was, so I
24 drafted the motion; and I filed it.

25 And I called her. I said, hey, Yvonne, you know, when

1 the judge signs this order, because I assumed you would sign it.
2 We all agreed. It wasn't like I was doing anything ex parte.

3 JUDGE BRANN: Well, you never know, Tammy.

4 MS. TAMMY TAYLOR: So I said when the judge signs this
5 order could you let me know because I'm actually going to be the
6 one going to pick him up, and I'm driving two hours to get him.
7 And the order had to go to Grand Prairie, and then Grand Prairie
8 had to call the prison. And I wanted to make sure everything
9 happened.

10 And she was, you know, so happy to do that for me.
11 And she called me when the judge signed the order, and I was at
12 lunch. And so she had sent an e-mail, and on the e-mail she put
13 like this little car that said like get going. And so I'll
14 remember that.

15 JUDGE BUTTS: Thank you. Well, I'd like, again, to
16 say thank you to the family, friends, members of the Law
17 Association for attending today's service. This will conclude
18 the Memorial service for Yvonne H. Campbell. This special
19 session of court is adjourned. Thank you.

20 **(WHEREUPON, the proceedings concluded at 4:41 p.m.)**

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