

1 IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF LYCOMING COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
2 IN RE: LLA BAR HISTORY :
3 MEMORIAL RESOLUTION : CV-24-0003
4 ROBERT W. FERRELL, III :

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TRANSCRIPT OF MEMORIAL SERVICE held

before the Honorable Court of Lycoming County in Courtroom No. 1
of the Lycoming County Courthouse, 48 West Third Street,
Williamsport, Pennsylvania, on January 16th, 2025, commencing at
4:04 p.m. and concluding at 4:40 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Judge William P. Carlucci, Chairman

Brad Hillman, Esquire

Diane Turner, Esquire

RONI LYNN KREISHER
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P R O C E E D I N G S

1
2 **PRESIDENT JUDGE BUTTS:** So welcome everyone to
3 this Special Session of Court. We have the privilege of holding
4 a Memorial Service for Robert Ferrell, Bob Ferrell, a long-time
5 member of our Bar Association and a long-time employee here in
6 the courthouse as a member of the District Attorney's Office and
7 who was a law clerk for Judge Raup, who was in this courtroom
8 when he would have worked for him. I recognize and appreciate
9 everyone who is in attendance here today and I'd like to
10 acknowledge the members of the Committee, Brad Hillman and Diane
11 Turner and then Judge Carlucci was a member of that Committee as
12 well, but he was unable to be here this evening and so he's given
13 me some words to discuss here today.

14 I appointed a committee to prepare a report
15 and resolution. Was there a designation as to who the Chair was?
16 Is that Judge Carlucci or --

17 **BRAD HILLMAN:** It is, Your Honor.

18 **PRESIDENT JUDGE BUTTS:** Okay, but, Mr. Hillman,
19 you're going to read the Resolution in his absence?

20 **BRAD HILLMAN:** Yes, Your Honor.

21 **PRESIDENT JUDGE BUTTS:** Okay. All right. I would
22 now recognize you if you would like to come forward and present
23 the Resolution.

24 **BRAD HILLMAN:** Thank you.

25 **PRESIDENT JUDGE BUTTS:** Unfortunately, I don't see

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1 any family members here. I know that once everything is prepared
2 a copy of the Resolution and the transcript will go to them.

3 **BRAD HILLMAN:** Thank you, Your Honor. Members of
4 the Bench, members of this association, family and friends of Bob
5 Ferrell both here and those who may later read the transcription
6 of this Special Session of Court. The Committee was asked to
7 draft Resolutions memorializing the life of Robert W. Ferrell,
8 III and to submit them today at this ceremony. Accordingly, your
9 Committee submits the following Report and Resolutions:

10 Robert W. Ferrell, III "Bob" was a proud
11 life-long resident of Picture Rocks. He passed away peacefully
12 on Friday, September the 13th, 2024, at UPMC Williamsport, Divine
13 Providence Hospital.

14 Bob was born on September 26th of 1956 in
15 Muncy, Pennsylvania, the son of the late Robert Ferrell, Jr. and
16 Lorma Egli Ferrell. Bob shared his birthday with Kevin Way,
17 Esquire and William Carlucci, Esquire of this Association.

18 Bob was a 1974 graduate of Hughesville High
19 School and received his Bachelor of Science degree from Penn
20 State University in 1979.

21 Bob attended the University of Pittsburgh
22 School of Law graduating with a Juris Doctorate degree in 1982.

23 Bob then began his legal career as law clerk
24 to the Honorable Thomas C. Raup, former President Judge of
25 Lycoming County.

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1 Bob then went on to the Lycoming County
2 District Attorney's Office where he was Assistant District
3 Attorney for 30 years prior to his retirement.

4 In addition to his distinguished career as an
5 attorney, Bob was a passionate supporter of Penn State football,
6 a devoted fighter, I'm sorry, a devoted father to his golden
7 retrievers, including his latest dog, Pip.

8 Bob was an accomplished amateur historian,
9 particularly the history of the United States Civil War and
10 cheerfully volunteered his time to local groups on those
11 subjects.

12 Bob served his community as an active member
13 of the Picture Rocks Lions Club.

14 Bob is survived by two sisters, Susan Ferrell
15 Troller of Terrance Park, Ohio and Sharon Ferrell Ketchen of
16 Opelika, Alabama; one niece, Katharine Bond; and two nephews,
17 Andrew and Robert Troller. In addition to his parents, Bob was
18 preceded in death by his brother, William Ferrell.

19 Bob lived a full life as an accomplished
20 attorney, a loving family member, a devoted community volunteer,
21 a loyal Penn State fan, and a gentleman of the highest order.

22 Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the
23 undersigned, joined by the Bench and Bar of Lycoming County do
24 recognize the passing of Robert W. Ferrell, III, Esquire and
25 submit the following Resolutions:

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1 Be it resolved, that in the passing of Robert
2 W. Ferrell, III, Esquire on September 13th, 2024, there has been
3 a loss to this Association of an able lawyer of the highest
4 character and integrity, a loss to the Picture Rocks community of
5 a valuable servant and a loss to his family of a cherished
6 brother and uncle;

7 Be it further resolved, that this Court and
8 Bar do hereby extend to Bob's family our deep and heartfelt
9 sympathy;

10 And be it further resolved, that these
11 Resolutions be spread at length upon the minutes of the Court of
12 Common Pleas of Lycoming County and that copies be provided to
13 the family of Robert W. Ferrell, III, Esquire.

14 Respectfully submitted, the Honorable William
15 P. Carlucci, Chairperson; Diane Turner, Esquire and Brad Hillman,
16 Esquire.

17 I have copies for the Bench.

18 **PRESIDENT JUDGE BUTTS:** Thank you. Did you wish
19 to say a few words while you're up?

20 **BRAD HILLMAN:** Sure. Well, I first actually came
21 to the county in 1991 and my first job here at the county was
22 when Judge Kieser ascended to the Bench. I was his first law
23 clerk and Judge Kieser had criminal court and as all the law
24 clerks, many of which whom are here or have been, know it's
25 usually a two-year stint. So my two years was 1991 to 1993 and

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1 Bob would be in our courtroom quite a bit since we principally
2 did criminal, so I got to know him there. Then in 1993 I myself
3 went to the DA's office and became assistant district attorney
4 and it was a great staff. Well, Tom 1.0 was there, now, 2.0,
5 Ken, of course, Nancy, Hal -- I forgotten Hal's last name.

6 **PRESIDENT JUDGE BUTTS:** Hal Ciampoli.

7 **BRAD HILLMAN:** Hal Ciampoli, Dan Holmes, Bob and,
8 of course, myself. So it was a great office and I found
9 everybody to be approachable, but Bob in particular was available
10 because in all honesty if he wasn't in court he was in his office
11 usually reading a Civil War book. So any questions I had as a
12 fledgling ADA I would pretty much take to him. He absolutely
13 loved history. I found Bob to be an old soul, really, except for
14 the little red sports car he drove around everywhere he went.
15 Had a 5,000 plus volume library of history books. Remarkable.
16 Civil War artifacts and he had committed the Gettysburg Address
17 to memory. Imagine that for party tricks, right? But he would,
18 he would go to patriotic events and recite the Gettysburg
19 Address, whether it be Memorial Day, those types of functions.
20 He once lamented that his boyhood hero had remained his hero well
21 into adulthood, a man who simply signed his name Abe Lincoln.
22 But Bob's knowledge of history, as I said, was really remarkable
23 and it really came to light when he once offered to take my wife
24 and I and several other couples to a tour of Gettysburg
25 battlefields and I knew I was in trouble. We all met at a

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1 parking lot, I think it was the Walmart in Lewisburg, and I'm
2 driving this big van and we have people in it and there is Bob in
3 his little red sports car. He hops in the van and he's got a
4 stack of handouts, regiments, brigades, divisions, corps, how
5 many, oh, anyhow; but he did. He was thorough and he was so good
6 that our group of eight or nine people as we went around the
7 battlefields would grow to 15 or 20 because everybody was
8 listening to him. He was kind and helpful in the DA's office.
9 He was gracious with his time both then and on those tours and
10 he'll be missed.

11 **PRESIDENT JUDGE BUTTS:** Thank you. Ms. Turner.

12 **DIANE TURNER:** Okay if I just read my remarks from
13 here?

14 **PRESIDENT JUDGE BUTTS:** Let's stand up here. Come
15 on. This way we get to hear you.

16 **DIANE TURNER:** Okay. I'll tell you as I was doing
17 this I was thinking how long it's been since I met Bob Ferrell.
18 It's been a long time. It's been 20 years since I stood in the
19 well of a courtroom and spoke. I'm nervous. So here we are. I
20 admittedly have not stayed in touch with Bob in recent years, he
21 kinda I think someone used the term fell off the face of the
22 earth after awhile; but I was thinking about Bob and I was
23 realizing what a mentor he was to me back in the days when I was
24 a brand new attorney. I met Bob 34 years ago and he was already
25 a veteran litigator, which was something that I very much wanted

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1 to be so when I had the opportunity to watch him working I did
2 and I learned a lot from him. Bob had this habit of kind of
3 wandering into court and then later on he would sort of wander
4 out victorious with whatever issue he had been litigating that
5 day and he had this natural knack for seeing what the issues were
6 and for knowing exactly what he needed to present to be
7 successful on whatever issue he was litigating. He also knew
8 when to stay quiet and let opposing counsel, and at the time I
9 was one of them, just sort of tie themselves up in all kinds of
10 knots that they were never going to get out of. Bob would speak
11 one or two sentences and suddenly he had won the case and the
12 rest of us were done. Two years later I also was hired to work
13 in the District Attorney's Office and I got to know Bob better
14 and I also had the opportunity to talk to him and try and
15 discover his wisdom. So I had opportunities to talk with him
16 from time to time and ask his opinion about various issues. I
17 had a feeling that there had to be some kind of secret to his
18 preparation. I discovered that his secret was to know everything
19 there was to know about the Civil War, that is secret to winning
20 their cases everybody. Somehow, every time I talked to Bob about
21 a case we would end up talking about something that had to do
22 with the Civil War. I can remember once talking with him about a
23 DUI case and ending up with Bob telling me about buttons on
24 military uniforms. I don't remember the entire conversation. I
25 don't remember if they were Union or Confederate buttons, but I

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1 do remember we were talking about buttons and he had very strong
2 opinions about it. So when I asked him a question, Bob went to a
3 stack of books and papers and magazines and he used to have a
4 table of them in his office, the stack was shoulder high and he
5 would go through it, he got down close to the bottom of one
6 stack, pulled something out, knew what page to open it up to and
7 said that's my point. He went right to the source and I learned
8 that knowing everything about your subject was a key to winning
9 in court the way Bob was able to do that. Bob would tell stories
10 about the Civil War battles or different people that participated
11 in those battles and he really had a knack to make it come alive
12 for this particular former history major in college and I learned
13 that telling stories in court and making them come alive for the
14 jury or for the judges who were listening is the key to winning
15 at trial. Bob would travel to various Civil War sites and he
16 knew things because he had been there personally. I've actually
17 talked to multiple people and I have to tell you a secret, one of
18 them was Brad Hillman, about how -- and Brad was not the only one
19 though, about how he would go to Gettysburg National Park and
20 that he would give tours of the park to various people and I was
21 aware that he would gather crowds of people around him as he
22 talked about things at Gettysburg National Park, that he was
23 comfortable being the tour guide. Each of the people I talked to
24 remembered how some of those folks that would join in would
25 follow him from location to location to location on the

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1 battlefield just to hear what he had to say and to learn what he
2 knew and I learned that talking to witnesses and getting a
3 first-hand account even seeing a site in person was one of the
4 keys to winning a trial the way Bob did. He had a passion not
5 just for the Civil War, but for a lot of things that is possessed
6 by a few people that I have met since and when my own passion is
7 not the Civil War, I was able to learn from him that being
8 engaged is one of the most important things that a successful
9 litigator needs to be. Bob certainly was a successful litigator
10 and I think all of those things contributed to that. So my
11 memory of Bob is that he is one of the people who helped me get
12 my feet beneath me when I was a very brand new and wet behind the
13 ears attorney, that he was what I wanted to become and I will
14 always be grateful to him for helping me get my feet beneath me
15 and I will always remember him fondly. Thank you so much.

16 **PRESIDENT JUDGE BUTTS:** Okay. Thank you both.
17 Since Judge Carlucci was part of the Committee I'll read at this
18 point his notes that he sent. I regret that I'm out of town
19 attending an engagement in Harrisburg, which prevents me from
20 attending Bob's memorial. I understand that Judge Arbuckle has a
21 similar conflict. It was my great honor to know Bob and his
22 sister, Sue, both of whom practiced as Lycoming County Assistant
23 District Attorneys. Sue relocated to Ohio to marry and raise her
24 family, Bob remained in his beloved hometown of Picture Rocks.
25 Bob was always bright, hardworking, and fair in his approach to

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1 criminal prosecution. Above all else, he was a consummate
2 gentleman. We shall miss his kind heart and warm smile.

3 I will sign the order accepting the
4 Resolution and directing that they be spread upon the records of
5 the Court and that it be distributed to the members of the family
6 as we usually do.

7 Now would be the time that I would ask if any
8 of my colleagues would like to say a few words. I'll start with
9 Judge Gardner.

10 **JUDGE GARDNER:** Thank you, Judge Butts. Much like
11 Ms. Turner and Mr. Hillman, I first met Bob when I was in the
12 DA's office. At that time I came in under then DA Mike Dinges
13 and it consisted of Bill Simmers, Hank Mitchell, Bob, Ken Osokow
14 and myself. So the two deep wells of knowledge in the office for
15 someone that didn't know what they were talking about was either
16 to approach Mr. Osokow or Mr. Ferrell. I realized quickly that
17 if I wanted a very succinct answer I would go to Mr. Ferrell. I
18 recall that he was at the end of the hall and at that time in the
19 DA's office there was a corridor where the ADAs were located and
20 he had the office that was first as you walk in, but last from
21 the DA's office, the elected DA's office. I would mosey down the
22 hallway, poke my head in and every time I would ask a question he
23 would never look up from what he was reading. So I wasn't quite
24 certain if he was paying attention or not. Well, at the end of
25 my presentation of whatever question I had at the time he would

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1 look up above his glasses, answer and it was right on point and
2 what I needed, look back down and carry on. He was always just
3 very succinct, spot on, consistent with what Ms. Turner was
4 saying. I learned a lot from him. When I left the DA's office I
5 lost touch with him. I didn't see him for many, many years until
6 approximately nine months prior to his death. I saw him at a
7 Muncy/South Williamsport football game, he was standing in the
8 end zone. I approached him, said hello, asked if he remembered
9 me. Of course, he did. Asked how the job was going. I asked
10 how his red car was and he said it was replaced by a brand new
11 Mustang for which he was very proud and he discussed every little
12 detail, including the displacement ratio of the pistons, just the
13 kind of guy he was; but I did enjoy him. Thank you, Judge Butts.

14 **PRESIDENT JUDGE BUTTS:** Okay. Thank you. Judge
15 Tira.

16 **JUDGE TIRA:** I didn't know Bob well, but my
17 interactions with him, but his intelligence is what stood out to
18 me and also his demeanor. I'm not sure there is someone I could
19 say who was made to be a prosecutor more than Bob, but I feel
20 like that's what he was made for from the time he was born and my
21 interactions with him always seeing him he was always in that
22 mindset, it's what he loved to do and what he wanted do. I don't
23 know if I met many people like that, who really truly found their
24 calling. I always enjoyed my interactions with Bob.

25 **PRESIDENT JUDGE BUTTS:** Thank you. Judge

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1 Linhardt.

2 **JUDGE LINHARDT:** Thank you. The group of us as
3 judges will have talked on a number of occasions about our
4 important responsibility as attorneys to not only make
5 contributions to our -- to the legal community, but to the
6 community in which we live and Bob did that every day as an
7 attorney who dedicated and devoted himself as a career prosecutor
8 and a public servant. I'm sure sacrificing the ability to make a
9 lot more money in the private sector and because he dedicated
10 every life of his professional career to being a career
11 prosecutor and fighting and advocating for victims and supporting
12 law enforcement, I suspect that he made many, many positive
13 contributions to this community that he was not himself fully
14 aware of. For that reason alone, he should stand as an example
15 to all of us. Bob will be missed.

16 **PRESIDENT JUDGE BUTTS:** Thank you. Yes, what
17 feels like in another life I was an Assistant District Attorney
18 under Tom 1.0 and Hal Ciampoli and Dan Holmes, Bob Ferrell. I
19 mean these are names that I can remember in the District
20 Attorney's Office because I had come from Judge Smith's -- being
21 Judge Smith's law clerk so I think that Bob was Judge Raup's law
22 clerk at one time, but I can't quite figure out when he was
23 because when I became Judge Smith's law clerk Kate Shimer was
24 Judge Raup's law clerk; but it was just very interesting to meet
25 and to continue to know people who worked in this building for so

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1 many years and had become an institution in that role and what I
2 always remembered about Bob was that he literally did have that
3 stack of magazines about the Civil War that was probably about as
4 tall as I was by then in his office and that he could literally
5 without any notes go down and do a trial and win and you didn't
6 know how he did it; but he did and I think it was his ability to
7 relate to the jurors and to tell a story. It was fascinating to
8 me that he really had this amazing ability because when you
9 talked with him you didn't -- you didn't always get that sense
10 because he really did keep to himself; but just an interesting
11 person and I think really to follow up on what Judge Linhardt
12 said, made a difference in the community probably without even
13 realizing the impact that he had on others and the successes that
14 he did because back then we did a lot more jury trials than we do
15 now and just the amount of work that he did that was so natural
16 for him to communicate with people and, like I said, I think he
17 lived for his work and Civil War and his golden retrievers
18 because you would hear about those as well. So yeah -- yeah, my
19 colleagues have said it best here's an individual that was an
20 integral part of the practice of law in this courthouse that is
21 no more and we're -- we were better for his participation and he
22 will be missed. Absolutely. And was missed when he retired.

23 So now would be the opportunity if anyone
24 would share -- would like to share a few words because there are
25 a number of people in this room that have worked with him.

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1 **GARY WEBER:** Your Honor --

2 **PRESIDENT JUDGE BUTTS:** Mr. Weber.

3 **GARY WEBER:** -- I have a story about the little
4 red car. So Bob Ferrell was actually in my class at law school
5 and I didn't know him there, but when he came to town -- when I
6 came to town he and I ended up serving as law clerks. I was
7 Judge Smith's law clerk, he was Judge Raup's law clerk and on the
8 day he bought that little red car, which was a Fiero, it also was
9 the day of the bar picnic in those days at the Gray's Run Club.
10 So us law clerks he offered to drive me to the picnic. Now, if
11 you know the Fiero it sits very low and has a standard shift and
12 he had never driven a standard shift before. So he drives us up
13 there and we made it up there, but, you know, it's bumping around
14 because it's a little bumpy road there. We get up there without
15 any problem. On the way back it was dark and we -- neither of us
16 had ever been up there before and we're driving out of the
17 driveway and you may recall there is a sharp turn there as you're
18 coming down the driveway from Gray's Run. Well, Bob didn't see
19 the turn and we ended up going straight into a field and there we
20 are sitting in this field and he didn't know how to put it into
21 reverse and get out of this field and we're sitting there and it
22 must have been a half hour until we finally got out and able to
23 get back on the road and come back in that little Fiero. So that
24 Fiero would have dated back to the early 80's. If he still had
25 it years later its held up fairly well, which is not usual for a

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1 Fiero.

2 **PRESIDENT JUDGE BUTTS:** Thank you. Anyone else?
3 Oh, Judge Kieser.

4 **SENIOR JUDGE KIESER:** May it please the Court. I
5 think that's a good comment that the car held up fairly well
6 because that's what to me Bob Ferrell did. He held up fairly
7 well in some very difficult cases and items that he was thrown
8 into. Now, I wouldn't say that the former DAs sitting here
9 necessarily gave him some cases that they thought was a sure loss
10 and, you know, we'll let just let Bob handle it; but he did, he
11 took some cases and I'm sure the DA's staff thought, you know,
12 that's a loser; but Bob had a secret that really didn't come out
13 unless you see him case after case after case and he had a real
14 passion for getting justice done and that's all that I can say
15 and some -- some of us express our passions maybe more openly or
16 figuratively or emotionally than Bob would; but for every victim
17 that he ever represented in the court he had a real passion and I
18 think that that was a real secret for -- we know about his
19 passion for the Civil War, but his passion for getting the job
20 done and winning the case is what marked him and would also say
21 that he was one of the most respectful attorneys to appear in
22 front of me when I was judge. As you could imagine and I know
23 that he believed that I made rulings that were wrong, but unlike
24 many, he would never express that in a way that was in any way
25 offensive. He was just a -- just a really good trial attorney

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1 and I attribute to his respect to the opponent, for the jury, for
2 even for the defendants that he was prosecuting. So he was a
3 really good man.

4 **PRESIDENT JUDGE BUTTS:** Thank you. Judge Brown.

5 **SENIOR JUDGE BROWN:** First I want to say he was
6 one of the finest Assistant District Attorneys I ever worked
7 with. I worked with him for many years. He treated the judges
8 with fairness and respect and likewise with defense counsel, he
9 always got along well with defense counsel. He was also a fine
10 trial attorney. I don't know if any of you seen him in trial,
11 but he's a reserved, quiet kind of guy; but there would usually
12 be a point in his closing argument where he would reach a
13 crescendo of emotion and probably would catch the jury's
14 attention because he had been so quiet, but professional
15 throughout and he was a very good trial attorney, he won most
16 cases that I had with him. I made the mistake once confessing to
17 him that I had relatives and ancestors from Tennessee and I
18 thought that they probably fought with the Confederacy in the
19 Civil War. Well, he came back to me with the history of where
20 they were and he took me down to Gettysburg to show me where they
21 were, but he was quite a historian. I'm sad to say that after he
22 left the courthouse Joyce and I gave him call to try to set up a
23 lunch cause we hadn't seen him in awhile. We set up a date and,
24 unfortunately, for some reason he had to cancel out and we said
25 to him call us, you know, when you're free, when you're ready to

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1 do it and we'll get together and we never heard from him and I'm
2 kinda ashamed to say that I never followed up on it. I assume
3 maybe he just didn't want to do it, but I'm kind of sad to say
4 that. I really would have loved to see him again. We're all
5 going to miss him very much.

6 **PRESIDENT JUDGE BUTTS:** Thank you. Nicole. Ms.
7 Spring.

8 **NICOLE SPRING:** I went to high school with Bob's
9 brother, Bill, and his sister, Sharon, and we were band kids
10 together, all of us, and so I didn't know Bob until I came to
11 work here and Bob was an institution already by the time I got
12 here in 1986 and at one point we were investigating drug courts
13 and so we would travel around. He was on the drug court
14 committee and we would go to places. I got to go to the Civil
15 War Museum in New Orleans with him and I heard about the buttons,
16 but I still for the life of me don't remember; but my shock was,
17 Bob, they were only this big, those jackets are only this -- he
18 said, well, people were littler then, but every time we would go
19 somewhere if we would go out to dinner Bob would be going to a
20 cemetery. I hated history, unlike Ms. Turner who majored in
21 history, I hated it; but Bob and I would find ourselves at Jim
22 Carn's office frequently and I learned Civil War history from Bob
23 and Revolutionary War history from Mr. Carn and I love it. But I
24 had one of those early in my career trials and it was in front of
25 Judge Brown, two defendants, Bob was the prosecutor and you

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1 weren't really sure if Bob was paying attention because he was so
2 low key. So two defendants, Bob, not any of us made an objection
3 through the whole trial. We get to the end and Bob does his
4 closing and I think my mouth hit the table. He was so eloquent
5 and so wonderful, but the other defense attorney and I each won
6 one of the charges, our clients were convicted of the more major
7 and I don't think I ever beat Bob in a trial after that, but my
8 celebration was one. So after Bob retired he -- I got a letter
9 at my house. I'm part of the Little family that does big
10 ancestral things everywhere. Well, it turns out Bob also was
11 Little ancestry so I got a letter from him that said come to the
12 Little reunion and I never went, but Bob and I became Facebook
13 friends and he always posted the best golden retriever posts on
14 Facebook that were amazing and the last I had spoken with him I
15 reached out on Facebook when his brother Bill passed away and
16 told him how sorry I was because Bill was a year older than I was
17 and Sharon was a year younger and I'm glad that I had that
18 contact with him, but that was the most recent and Bob will
19 definitely be missed.

20 **PRESIDENT JUDGE BUTTS:** Thank you. Anyone else?
21 Oh, Mr. Marino. I'm sorry, Mr. Mitchell. Who wants to go first?
22 Mr. Mitchell.

23 **MR. MITCHELL:** I just wanted to mention Bob
24 Ferrell actually worked in our office for a period of time. It
25 must have been between the time he was a clerk and the time he

1 became a DA, but he worked in our office, which was then
2 Mitchell, Mitchell, Gray & Gallagher and before him his sister,
3 Susan, worked for us for several years before she moved to
4 Cincinnati. So we had -- so he was for a period of time, a civil
5 practitioner.

6 **PRESIDENT JUDGE BUTTS:** Mr. Marino.

7 **TOM MARINO:** Certainly Bob was a gentleman's
8 gentleman as was stated by our colleagues here, but I got to know
9 Bob who I wouldn't say he was ungentlemanly, but he had a real
10 good sense of humor and when we'd have Christmas parties at my
11 house, Nancy you would be there and Bob would be there and I kept
12 watching him through the night and I thought well, he's a
13 wallflower. I said, Bob, get out and talk to people and he said
14 I'm fine and so he had a drink in his hand and still in the same
15 spot and about an hour later he had another drink in his hand at
16 the same spot and I thought Bob didn't drink. Well, by the time
17 it was the fifth drink that he had he was the comedian going
18 around the whole party and yucking it up and talking about
19 history. But I need to share one more secret with you. I
20 enjoyed Bob very much. He was very smart and I learned a lot of
21 things from him both law and otherwise, but we were at -- took
22 all of the -- all of my office to Gettysburg and Bob, of course,
23 was the leader and we are standing maybe this far from where the
24 judges are and there is a person, a federal individual decked out
25 in his uniform and talking to people, just a couple people; but

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1 our whole group went around and listened to this and the guy made
2 a statement or two and I saw Bob, no. The guy kept talking and
3 wasn't just this, it was like this and finally the guy said
4 something and Bob politely corrected him and the guy said, well,
5 would you like to come up here and give this presentation and
6 I'll be damn, Bob did and he knocked it out of the park. I mean
7 I bet out of the 15 people in our office we within 20 minutes had
8 50 people around us and everywhere that I would get Bob, okay, we
9 got to move to the next thing those people moved with us. So you
10 just get Bob in the right time and he's a gentleman, but he
11 really is packed with a lot of humor and you don't know what to
12 expect next, but it's pretty cool; but God rest his soul.

13 **PRESIDENT JUDGE BUTTS:** Thank you. Anyone else
14 like to share a few words? There are an awful lot of former
15 Assistant DAs or public defenders out in the audience. Oh, Mr.
16 Cronin.

17 **ROBERT CRONIN:** So I came into this community
18 about 18 years ago. I was a 26-year-old attorney and, of course,
19 Bob Ferrell was a very quiet individual and, of course, you can
20 sometimes mistake quiet with intimidating and, of course, I wear
21 my heart on my sleeve and so when I saw Bob I was intimidated
22 when I was trying to negotiate cases with him. I was trying to
23 talk with him and couldn't figure out what to talk to this
24 individual about when there was lulls in preliminary hearings and
25 I was at Judge Carn's courtroom one day and on the wall there was

1 a Civil War painting and I was staring at it and Bob looks up
2 from his case file and he goes, you know, that painting is
3 historically inaccurate and then starts to go and telling me why
4 that painting was historically inaccurate and all I could think
5 about is that Bob Ferrell had the opportunity to share two
6 passions with me that he had and that was his passion for the law
7 and his passion for military history or Civil War history and I
8 have had the ability now to take both of those with me into my
9 life with both the military history and the legal history and I'm
10 able to share that with people in my life. So I'm just able now
11 to be able to take the Bob Ferrell, you know, and incorporate him
12 into my life and share his history and stories with other people.
13 I'm appreciative that I've had that time with him.

14 **PRESIDENT JUDGE BUTTS:** Thank you. Anyone else?
15 Well, it appears that this now concludes our memorial service for
16 Bob Ferrell. I want to thank everybody for coming here today and
17 sharing your memories over many, many decades of a life well
18 lived here at the courthouse anyway. So thank you all very much
19 for coming and this Special Session of Court is now adjourned.

20 (Whereupon, the Special Session of Court concluded at 4:40 p.m)
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