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JIM PAYNE—THE MAN

*Julian E. Savage**

Others will remember him as a teacher; as a colleague; as a scholar. I remember the man—a very human man—an exceptionally sensitive man. Some, who had contact with him only during the last year or two of his life, should know that illness and fatigue were then his daily companions, forcing concessions of his time and brilliance, and making it impossible for him to give as fully of himself to his students as he had done for so many years past. I would like for those who knew him then to have known him:

When he was a fellow student in Law School, stating cases in class concisely and with sureness and, in his discussion of a case, exhibiting a clarity of thought and preciseness of expression that earned for him the Charles T. Norman Medal in Law as well as the envious respect of his classmates. A quiet fellow, soft-spoken and with a bashful grin that made friendship with him comfortable and rewarding;

When he had come down from the mountain country of Virginia, with the thought of entering the ministry, knowing that he wanted to be of help to his fellow men, and knowing that he needed an education to make his service meaningful. Every penny required for his college education he earned himself. Three small rural churches knew him as their pastor while he was a theological student;

When he was a student at Randolph-Macon College, in Ashland, meeting the beautiful young high school teacher, Evelyn Heflin, who was soon to become his wife. The heritage of Law in her family was to influence him to set the study of Law as his goal. He tended furnaces, waited on tables, and occasionally was able to buy his girl an ice cream soda with the money hard come by;

When he was an Air Force cadet at Hondo Air Field in Texas, studying and training to serve his country during World War II as a flight engineer, and at the same time serving his fellow airmen as an assistant to the chaplain. While he was still in the Air Force, in May of 1945, he and Evelyn were married;

When he came to T. C. Williams Law School on an accelerated program of two years, with extra work as a shoe salesman and as an as-

*Member of the Virginia Bar.

sistant librarian, and living at the old Naval Diesel School Housing Project, well-known to so many young Law School couples of that time for its minimal rent and minimal comforts, but remembered with affection for the camaraderie of its aspiring tenants. And when, told that his firstborn son was dead after only one day of life, he stood empty and numb in the hospital hall before going to give comfort to his grieving wife; and to go on facing life;

When he graduated first in his class and the Law School immediately sought him for its faculty, and his teaching career that was to last for 23 years had begun. While teaching, researching and working up his notes for his Law courses, still attending class and studying at Richmond College for his Bachelor of Arts Degree, and winning the Norman Medal in English and election to Omicron Delta Kappa and Phi Beta Kappa. Then to Harvard Graduate Law School on a fellowship where among international students he attained straight "A" grades and his LL. M. degree;

When he sat in the dark hours of night on the bleak shores of Ocracoke Island to photograph with professional skill the beauty of an ocean side sunrise; or, in the winter snows of Big Meadows he camped with his son and hiked the lonely trails of the hills in which he had been bred, seeking out and absorbing the beauty of nature that he loved so much; and fishing in the turbulent mountain streams as he had fished in the surging surf of the Outer Banks of North Carolina and in the quiet ponds of Goochland County, sharing tranquility with a friend;

When he served as Chairman of the Personnel Board of the City of Richmond, giving of his time and skill to his fellow citizens in an area of complex human problems. And knowing that many of the problems that came before him involved City police personnel, in the lonely hours of the night, he rode the by-ways of the City in police squad cars to acquire personal knowledge of their problems.

This was the man! This is the man to remember! Jim Payne, in the words of Ecclesiasticus, said to us all, "Consider that I laboured not for myself only but for all them that seek learning."