



Judge William Rader

August 29, 2010

Judge William Sherman Rader, 89, of Cape Girardeau passed away peacefully Sunday, Aug. 29, 2010, at Chateau Girardeau Health Center. He was born April 12, 1921, in Broken Bow, Okla., to Dr. William S. and Florence Klink Rader. The Rader family moved to Clarksville, Ark., in 1923 from Oklahoma. He and Birdie Lane Wright were married June 2, 1950, at Central Christian Church in Texarkana, Texas. Rader served with the Army in the Pacific, where he was stationed in Australia, New Zealand and Japan during World War II. While in Japan he taught English and was a correspondent for the Arkansas Gazette. He graduated from Clarksville High School and from the University of the Ozarks in Clarksville. He earned his juris doctorate degree from the University of Arkansas School of Law. Rader moved to Cape Girardeau in the late 1950s to practice law with the Oliver and Oliver Law Firm. He later formed a law practice with Stan Grimm. Judge Rader served as circuit judge in Cape Girardeau County from 1980 to 1990. His work allowed him to help people improve their lives while upholding the law. Upon retirement he served as a senior judge in various counties until 2007. He was a member of Abbey Road Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), where he was a life elder. He served on the church board and was a former choir director. He was also a member of the Kiwanis Club, Toastmasters and Lions Club. Survivors include his wife, Birdie Rader of Cape Girardeau; two daughters, Jane Rader DeBoe and husband Tom of Boca Raton, Fla., Beth Hennessey and husband Chris of Grand Rapids, Mich.; two sisters, Katherine

Garrett and Helen Fulton of Clarksville; two grandchildren, William S. DeBoe and wife April of Delray Beach, Fla., and William Curran Hennessey of Grand Rapids. He was preceded in death by his parents. Friends may call from 4 to 8 p.m. Friday, September 3, 2010 at Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Funeral Home. The funeral will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, September 4, 2010 at Abbey Road Christian Church, with the Rev. Rodger Kiepe officiating. Burial will be in Cape County Memorial Park. Memorial contributions may be given to Abbey Road Christian Church, University of the Ozarks in Clarksville and Chateau Girardeau Foundation.

Tribute Wall

LH

“ *Birdie, Jane, and Beth: I know what a difficult time this is for you. The loss of someone so close and dear is hard. Your husband and dad was an inspiration for many. I know you will treasure many wonderful memories.*

Linda (Ohmart) Hope - July 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM

VW

“ *My family and I celebrate the long, productive and influential life of Mr. Rader, my best friend's father. I add my appreciation of him-- his kindness to me, his humor and his example to others of a life well lived*

Vicki Brown Wright - June 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM

LM

“ *What a great neighbor and family friend.*

Lee and Barb Meyer - June 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM

EP

“ *Birdie, Jane, and Beth, I know the loss of a beloved father and husband is so difficult, and I wanted to let you know I am thinking of you.*

Elaine (Ohmart) Prenger - May 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ *I am so sorry to hear of Bill's passing. He was a wonderful man with a great sense of humor. My parents, Mary and Paul Gleeson, cared for Birdie and him a lot. My prayers are with Birdie and her family.*

Kathy Gleeson Forster - May 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM

FF

“ Beth, Chris and Curran, We are sad to hear of the loss of your father, father-in-law and grandfather. We offer our deepest sympathy and will keep you in our thoughts and prayers. More love to you, The Burkhart family

Fred and Kathleen Burkhart and Family - March 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DR

“ Beth and family~ Sorry that we can not be with you at this sad time. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Love to you, The Redford family.

D. Redford - March 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RT

“ Birdie, we enjoyed meeting you and your husband, Bill, vicariously at your grandson Bill's wedding to our daughter, April. (We provided the live feed of the wedding day and ceremony.) We are sorry for your loss.

Ron & Judy Tarnow - March 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BG

“ We are so sorry to hear of Bill's passing. Birdie and Bill were great friends of my parents (Paul and Mary Gleeson) and they all had so much fun! Our thoughts and prayers are with the entire family.

Barry & Ann Gleeson - February 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BR

“ So very sorry to read of Bill's death. We have so many fond memories of living across the street for so many years. Know that you all remain in our prayers.

Blaine and Sue Russell - February 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ Judge Rader exemplified the best qualities of a gentleman, and he displayed as much or more respect to others as anyone I have ever known. Utterly admirable. His smile and soft, alert eyes revealed kindness in all things, and his intelligence was extra superior. He richened my life with good humor, intellect, and graciousness. I miss him.

Robin Cole - February 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM

AS

“ May God bless you, Bill. We will miss you.

A. J. Seier - February 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM

EM

“ Dear Birdie and Family: Sending my sincere sympathy and earnest prayers to you and your family. Bill was a great friend to me and my children and we will always remember his kindness. With our thanks and love, Edna Murphy, Steve and Janet

Edna B. Murphy - January 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SW

“ I worked for Judge Rader when he was the Judge for Div III and he always made us smile & laugh with an old joke everyday. I will miss his smiling face & bright colored jackets. He was quite the dresser! Fondly, Susan

Susan Wessell - January 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM

VM

“ Judge Rader hired me to work for Division III May 1, 1989. He was so much fun to work with and I really loved his jokes and his laughter.. I'm so sorry for you loss. He will be missed.

Vickie Mungle - January 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DR

“ *May his memory be eternal.*

David Roth - January 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SE

“ *Birdie,so sorry to hear of Bills passing.I worked for cape co sheriff department for years as Jail Maatron I thought a lot of Bill he was the kindness man and full of jokes,Birdie may his great memories live fresh daily in your life.He was the best and most honest judge I was fortunate to work around.May his soul rest in peace.Afriend in deed.*

shirley M. Eaker - January 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM

PL

“ *Bill was one of a kind. I will miss him. If I can help uou in any way mrs Birdi please call 275-1222.*

Pat & Alecia LaFont - January 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DE

“ *Birdie, Dick and I want you to know that knowing Bill was a special pleasure that has positively impacted our lives, given cause for admiration, and created many special memories. His role at the church, in the choir, in our lives was unique and special. We wish you and all the family peace, love and faith. Our hearts are with you. Respectfully, Diane Elder, Dick, and Carol Jackson Backman*

Dick and Diane Elder - January 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM

PB

“ *We were so sorry to hear of Bill's passing. Our deepest sympathy, Paul and Ann*

Paul and Ann Harrison- Brinkopf - January 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM