

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION
UPON THE DEATH OF DAVID W. FRANCIS

Our friend and colleague, David W. Francis passed away peacefully on September 16, 2011, shy of his forty-eighth birthday, following a long and arduous battle with brain cancer. It is not the manner of his death that we will remember, however; but rather his passionate pursuit of life, and the contributions he made to others.

Born on October 24, 1963 in Colorado Springs, Colorado, the son of an Air Force Master Sergeant, David grew up on military bases stateside and abroad, finally settling in Boiling Springs, and graduating a "Bubbler" in 1981. An avid student of philosophy, David enrolled at Dickinson College, graduating *cum laude* in 1985. Three years later, he obtained his J.D. from the Villanova Law School.

Instilled with a deep pride for his Country from his upbringing, David served in the U.S. Army at the rank of Captain in the JAG Corps following his graduation from Villanova. He was one of only a few JAG Corps officers to serve in the Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm campaign in Iraq, where he was attached to an engineering combat unit within the 18th Airborne Corps. He experienced the military campaign "in the trenches", out in the desert. For his extraordinary service to his Country, David was awarded the Bronze Star, the fourth highest award for bravery, heroism, or meritorious service bestowed by the U.S. Military.

Following his return from the Middle East, David was stationed at Fort Riley, Kansas, where he also served as a Special Assistant United States Attorney. More importantly, however, it was at Fort Riley that David met his equal in Bobbie Jo Vance, a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, and herself a veteran of Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm. The two complemented each other in every possible way. They were married on March 20, 1993.

Following the completion of his active military service, David returned to Central Pennsylvania to begin his professional career in the private practice of law. He began that career with the law firm of Powell Trachtman Logan Carrle & Bowman, focusing primarily, though not exclusively, in the areas of construction law, litigation and government contracting. Although he had no particular background in engineering or construction, he quickly demonstrated his keen intellect and dogged determination in mastering the legal nuances associated with the construction industry, and the professionals participating therein. The trial skills that he developed while in the military served him equally well. In short order, he became a leading practitioner representing the interests of contractors, subcontractors, suppliers, architects and engineers. Later, he expanded his practice to include electric energy matters before the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission. For those who had the opportunity to work with David, it was remarkable to watch him take an extraordinarily complex problem, and break it down into its most basic, easily understandable components.

After over a decade of practice with Powell Trachtman, David joined the law firm of Rhoads & Sinon, where he continued his construction law, litigation and energy practices. He remained with Rhoads & Sinon for the rest of his career.

David was a tremendously skilled litigator. His attention to detail was unmatched. If you happened to be on the other side of the "v.", rest assured that he would try to out-think you, out-strategize you, and most of all, out-work you. He lacked neither confidence nor bravado. He was tireless in the pursuit of his clients' interests. His dedication and resolve resonated deeply with those he represented.

David also excelled as a teacher and mentor, both within the walls of the law firms that he regarded so highly, and the community of professionals with whom he socialized. As an active member for many years with the James S. Bowman Chapter of the American Inns of Court, he exchanged ideas with his contemporaries, and provided tutelage to his junior colleagues. In mentoring associates, David provided a framework from which they could develop into exceptional lawyers.

Never straying far from his military style, David often resorted to military slogans in the mentoring of associates (or "Privates" as he fondly referred to them). One of his favorite sayings was "when in charge, be in charge" -- advice he most assuredly followed. Associates learned the importance of the "chain of command", and some even learned what a WAFWAT was. All were imparted with what David believed to be the most significant lesson in the development of young lawyers -- that the devil is in the details. It was what separated him from many of his contemporaries -- his incredible attention to detail. It was what he expected of those working with him.

David the attorney was merely one facet, and a small one at that, of David the man. Those that knew him outside the office and away from the courtroom, knew a gregarious, fun loving individual -- a personality that was truly larger than life. His encyclopedic knowledge of alternative music was unsurpassed. He loved a good debate -- even better if it was about philosophy. With a quick wit, a healthy dose of sarcasm and a devilish sense of humor, David enjoyed engaging with others. He was a gourmet cook, hobby astronomer, and an avid golfer. And nobody could quaff a draft beer faster. He had the type of personality that commanded attention, and earned affection. He was a bull dog if you were his adversary, and fiercely loyal if you were his friend. David was devoted to his wife Bobbie Jo for eighteen years, and extraordinarily proud of his two sons Harry and Andrew.

It is often said that the true test of a man's character is how he reacts in the face of adversity. Under that standard, David's character was unmatched. For eight years, he fought brain cancer with the same dogged determination that he so many times before relied upon in fighting for his clients. In the face of the most difficult battle he would ever have, he stood bravely, and with an unwavering spirit. He chose to live every ounce of life without sorrow. For

many of those years, and as long as his body would allow, he continued the pursuit of justice on behalf of his clients. There were times when his jovial nature and contagious laugh made it easy to forget that his body was at war. For many of us, it was the purest display of bravery and resolve we had ever witnessed.

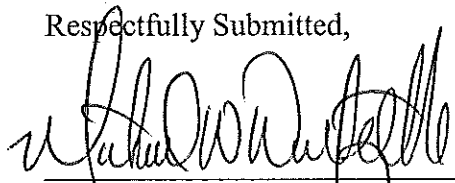
David will be missed, not only by his family, but by the many friends he made in the course of the practice of law throughout the Commonwealth. To those who knew him, he was loved, admired and greatly respected.

Therefore, be it resolved, that in the passing of David W. Francis, our community has lost a good and decent man of outstanding character, who performed his duties with dignity and honor.

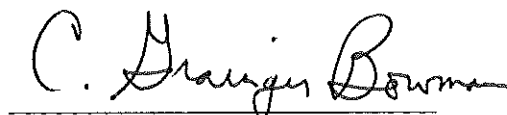
And resolved further, that the members of the Dauphin County Bar Association, in meeting assembled mourn the death of our esteemed colleague, David W. Francis, and tender our sincerest sympathy and condolences to his loving family.

And further resolved, that copies of this Memorial Resolution be spread upon the records of the Dauphin County Courts and the Dauphin County Bar Association, that the original copy be filed in the Office of the Prothonotary, and that copies be transmitted to his loving wife Bobbie Jo, and his sons Harry and Andrew.

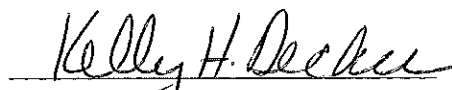
Respectfully Submitted,



Michael W. Winfield, Chairman



C. Grainger Bowman, Member



Kelly H. Decker, Member