

In Memoriam

Franklin Petri, Sr.

(October 22, 1894 – December 31, 1956)

**HENNEPIN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
District Court
Fourth Judicial District
Minneapolis, Minnesota**

(1957)

Memorial

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(October 22, 1894 – December 31, 1956)

With fondness and admiration, we pay our respects to our colleague, Franklin Petri, a great leader in the field of social welfare and human rehabilitation.

Frank passed away December 31, 1956, surviving a series of spaced heart attacks, which started in 1941 and which seriously restricted his active practice of law but did not quench his great zeal and effect effectiveness in sharing his life with others and in being a major factor in the rehabilitation of many families in the City of Minneapolis and elsewhere in the State of Minnesota.

Frank was truly a Minneapolis product, born here on October 22, 1894, son of Gustaf and Ida Petri. His father practiced law in Minneapolis for many years. Frank attended the public schools of Minneapolis and was one of the early graduates of our West High School. He entered the University of Minnesota for academic and pre-legal education and joined the United States Marine Corps in the First World War in July of 1917, receiving in the year 1918 a commission as Lieutenant. After release from service in 1919, he continued his law education at the University, receiving his law degree and admittance to practice before the Supreme Court of Minnesota in the spring of 1921.

Thereafter, he practiced law in Minneapolis for a short time with his father and then became an associate in the firm of

Allen and Fletcher. When this firm dissolved upon the death of Mr. Allen, he continued with his successor, the firm of Timerman and Vennum where he remained until the death of Mr. Gates Timerman. Thereafter, he went into private practice.

A member of the Hennepin County, Minnesota State and American Bar Associations, he has served at Past Commander of the American Legion Post No. 635. He was active in Masonic work, being a member of Khrum Lodge, the Shrine and Scottish Rite.

Frank's vital interest in life, in addition to close family interests and practice of law, has been the sharing of his life with those who had alcoholic problems. Having successfully conquered this problem in earlier years with the help of what is today a great national and international movement, he became one of the ablest advocates and leaders. For over fifteen years, he has given unstintingly of his time to counsel and work with men and their families who had serious drinking problems affecting their lives. To a substantial extent, he has been responsible for the permanent recovery of more than 150 men and women severing from alcoholism, which the medical profession and courts now recognize as a disease. For years, he has been a leader of the local branches of this great movement and was an outstanding factor along educational lines to acquaint the public and many church and civic groups with the numerous facilities for recovery of alcoholics.

In 1948 he attended the six weeks course at the Yale Alcoholic Clinic at New Haven and for the past nine years, has been in close contact with that group. He was secretary of the Governor's Commission on Alcoholism was a former

Deputy Probation Officer of the District Court of Hennepin County.

Franklin Petri's understanding and ability, his kindness and charity achieved for him, outstanding success in the field of human betterment.

To his dear wife, Helen Lawler Petri, his daughter Mrs. Plymouth Shedd and his son Franklin Petri Jr., a member of our Bar and to his many close friends, Frank has left an important heritage – not measurable in pecuniary values, but by higher standards, which consists in good living and the sharing of our lives with others.

Respectfully submitted

----- Williamson

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