

In

Memory

of

**Wilfred A. Quinlivan**

{ January 28, 1898 – February 8, 1938 }

**Hennepin County Bar Association  
District Court  
Fourth Judicial District  
Minneapolis, Minnesota**

**February 11, 1939**

## Wilfred A. Quinlivan

Wilfred A. Quinlivan was born on January 28, 1898, at St. Cloud Minnesota. His father, John Quinlivan was a native of Ontario, Canada, and his mother Sarah Barrett Quinlivan, was born on a farm near Postville, Iowa.

Bill, as he was known to his many friends, attended the public and parochial grade schools at St. Cloud and, after graduating from St. Cloud Technical High School in 1917, he entered Carleton College in Northfield Minnesota.

With the United States entering the World War in the spring of that year, Bill found the College Campus a retreat too far removed from the great events of those hectic days and in the early spring of 1918, then only 19 years of age, he laid aside his books enlisted in the United States Navy. The early part of his service was spent at the Great Lakes Training Station and on the U.S.S. Iowa. Subsequently and to the end of his enlistment he served in the Troop Transport Service on the U.S.S. Artemis, crossing the Atlantic twenty-two times.

Following his discharge from the United States Navy on January 6, 1920, he returned to St. Cloud where he attended the St. Cloud Business College and in the fall of that year he entered the St. Paul College of Law. Two years of service in the Navy had brought a change in his attitude toward life. The restless and spirited youth of his school and college years had suddenly grown to manhood. Life had become serious. He applied himself with diligence to the study of law, which, with his daily work, left little time for recreation. Upon his graduation and admission to the bar of this state in 1924 he commenced the practice of law in St. Paul and beginning in 1930 he carried on his practice in both of the Twin Cities.

On September 7, 1926, he married Sylvia C. Wilson of Winona, Minnesota, who was teaching in the public schools of St. Paul. They maintained their home at 1713 Summit Avenue, St. Paul.

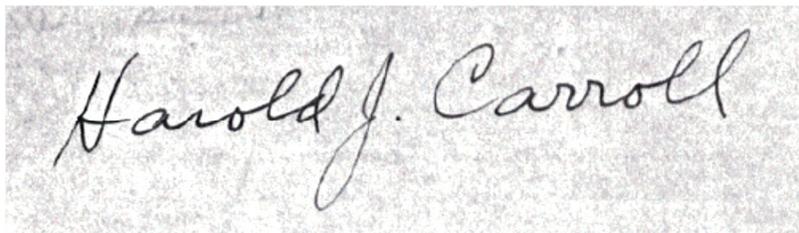
On February 8, 1938, the age of 40 years, and after a sudden and brief illness of only eleven days, he departed this life. He is survived by his mother, Mrs. Sarah Quinlivan of St. Cloud; his widow, Mrs. Sylvia C. Quinlivan and three children, William, Donald, and Joan, and two brothers, John M. Quinlivan of Minneapolis, and Roy J. Quinlivan of St. Cloud, both members of the Bar of this state.

In his untimely passing his wife and children have lost a loving husband and devoted father and companion; his mother, a worthy son; the Bar of this state, a lawyer who was a credit to our honorable profession.

There was an admirable reserve in Bill's nature, but he met people easily, made friends readily; and the friends he made, both as a boy and as a man, remained his friends. He practiced his profession honorably and faithfully. As a counselor he was patient, diligent, and frank; as an advocate he was thorough, alert and convincing; as an adversary he was worthy, courteous, and considerate. In all his dealings with his fellow lawyers and his fellow man, his word was his bond and upon his word he would stand regardless of personal consequences. He was a good lawyer and a good citizen in every sense of the word.

His interest in the practice of his profession was exceeded only by his devotion to his home and his family. He had few other interests; he needed none. To him the joy of living was in the doing of a hard day's work and in the spending of his leisure hours in the company of his loved ones at home. From home to office in the morning; from office to home at the close of the day. That was Bill's routine. He was a splendid example of simple and successful living as a lawyer and as a man.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Harold J. Carroll". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, textured background.

## Afterword

Wilfred A. Quinlivan's memorial and others delivered on February 11, 1939, were printed in a local legal newspaper. A copy of the following notice is part of his memorial file at the Minnesota Historical Society:

### Bar Memorial Service.

Memorial services were held Saturday, February 11, 1939, at the Special Term of the District Court in Court Room No. 1 presided over by the full bench of Judges. The large audience attending was composed of many practicing attorney of Minneapolis, several federal district judges, supreme court justices and friends of those members of the Hennepin County Bar who passed away during the year and in whose honor the services were held. Following are reproduced the obituaries as read and filed in the office of the Clerk of the District Court. They will appear here, one each day in alphabetical order, until all of those filed have been published.

### Related Memorial

"John M. Quinlivan (1892-1943)" (MLHP, 2016).



Posted MLHP: September 7, 2016.