

In Memoriam

Edwin L. Strand

December 7, 1893 • May 18, 1944

Hennepin County Bar Association
District Court
Fourth Judicial District
Minneapolis, Minnesota
1945

Edwin L. Strand

Edwin L. Strand, who died May 18, 1944, a resident of Minneapolis, Minnesota, was born December 7, 1893 at Duluth, Minnesota, the child of Louis Strand and Asora B. Strand, then resident at Two Harbors, both of whom were natives of Norway.

Ed's mother's folks were engaged in the lumbering business near Oslo, Norway. Ed's father was an under officer in the Kings Norwegian Guards. They were married in America and took up their abode on the shores of Lake Superior in the town of Two Harbors, in a country very much like their native land. It was a rugged pioneer country and the Strand family started in modest circumstances.

The father, Louis Strand, died while Ed was a small boy. There were three other younger brothers and a sister. The mother held the family together by dint of her perseverance and the efforts, and, considering the fact that there was a family of five small children, with no monetary inheritance from the father, she did a wonderful job in bringing up the family, and her spirit was an inspiration in the lives of the children. The other children are: Leif R. Strand, educated as a dentist at the University of Minnesota and a prominent practitioner in his profession in the City of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Alfred B. Strand, the owner and successful operator of an oil distributing business in the city of Hibbing, Minnesota; Edith Strand Wilkinson, housewife, Two Harbors, Minnesota; and Iver Strand, since deceased.

Ed was married to Maybelle Owens Strand of Two Harbors, Minnesota, October 20, 1916. No children are born of this marriage. Mrs. Strand has been ill for many years.

Ed enlisted October 19, 1918 at Lake County in the United States Army as a private, and was sent to Officers Training Camp at Camp Zachary Taylor, Kentucky. Shortly thereafter, the war terminated and he was discharged from the Army on November 29, 1918.

From early youth, Ed had the ambition to become a lawyer, but for many years he saw no chance of having a legal education. He went to work for the Duluth, Mesabi and Iron Range Railroad Company, where he worked for years in the Superintendent's office in various capacities. After he had accumulated a certain amount of money, he enrolled at the Law School at the University of Minnesota. On account of his wife's illness, he was forced to quit school for several years before he could again pursue his studies, but he was strongly moved by the ambition to make something of himself and he completed his legal education in the spring of 1928 at the University of Minnesota, graduating with a degree of LL.B. During his Law School course, he was Student Manager, Editor of the Minnesota Law Review for one year and a contributor for several years. He was a member of the Order of Coif, Iron Wedge, and Delta Chi Fraternity.

After receiving his degree, Ed became associated with Kingman, Cross, Morley, Cant and Taylor in the summer of 1928, and was a member of the firm at the time of his death. He pursued the completion of his legal studies at the University while at a mature age and did so with a great deal of seriousness of purpose. He seemed to have absorbed and retained an unusual grasp of legal principles. He was a keen and careful student of the law and took a special delight in turning out excellent work. Ed had a faculty of being able to quickly analyze a fact situation in relation to the legal principles involved, and his associates are keenly aware of the great contribution he made their combined efforts. When any particularly difficult legal situation arose, his partners were always anxious to know how Ed felt about it and what he thought the problems were and how they should be resolved. He is very much missed.

Ed was a living example of one of his favorite expressions: "There is no substitute for brains."

Ed always loved the outdoors. Fishing and hunting were his particular delights. The seasonal openings of the fishing and hunting seasons were things that he looked forward to with the keenest of anticipation. In fact, for a period of about a month prior to his death, he had been planning a trip to the Canadian wilds with other persons as soon as the lakes were

free of ice, and except for the sudden activation of a chronic condition of bronchial asthma which he had been afflicted for many years, he would have gone on that trip on the morning of the day before he died.

He liked good things to eat and was himself a cook of no mean note. He loved people. He was able to talk with ease to those in the highest walks of life as well as those in humbler fields of activity. When hunting, he managed to get along fine with the farmers and people with whom he came in contact. In fact they liked to see him come. He always seemed interested in their problems.

At the time of his death, he was a member the Minneapolis Athletic Club and of the Zuhrah Temple Shrine of the Masonic Order. He was a member the Minnesota State Bar Association and the Hennepin County Bar Association.

In the death of Edwin L. Strand, Minneapolis lost a good citizen and an honest, upright and capable member of the legal profession.

