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Memorial Service for Justice Jesse W. Carter - Response For The Court

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MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR JUSTICE JESSE W. CARTER
Wednesday, May 6, 1959

RESPONSE FOR THE COURT
by
Justice B. Rey Schauer

It is fitting that we have paused to receive tributes to the work and character of Mr. Justice Carter.

The juridical character of our late associate was not different from his general character. Justice Carter lived life to the full. Whatever he did, he did unstintingly. For him, there was no middle ground. He spared neither himself nor others. He gave criticism; he received it. Caustic in dissent, he was jovial in companionship. Generous in giving friendship, he cherished his friends.

The friends who have just spoken of him, I am sure, will agree that anything we may enter in the records today, by way of memorial to Justice Carter, will be less revealing, and less important, than the memorial which he himself had written before he laid his burdens down.

He was a prodigious worker. He dug deep in the quarries of the law and he sculptured all his diggings, whether rubble or hard rock, into the form of justice as he saw it. The features of his justice are strongly chiseled; of them we can rightly say: Res Ipsa Loquitur. Thus the real memorial for Justice Carter is encompassed in his opinions -- whether majority, concurring or dissenting -- published in the law reports of this State and Nation. They constitute an abiding monument to their author.