

## SULLIVAN CISTONE

By Lewis R. Long

Sullivan Cistone, in respect for whose memory the Court is holding this memorial service today, was essentially a product of the Slate Belt of Northampton County.

He was born on July 22, 1909, in Washington Township, Northampton County, Pennsylvania, the son of Peter Cistone and Constance (nee Liberto) Cistone, and died a resident of Bethlehem Township September 15, 1976. He was married to Henrietta Cistone and at the time of death he was survived by his widow, Henrietta, and two children, a son Richard aged 28 and a daughter Margaret Ann aged 24.

He received his elementary education at Roseto and graduated from Bangor High School in 1929. He then entered Temple University and received his Bachelor of Science Degree in 1934. From 1937 to 1940, he was employed as a bookkeeper in a Philadelphia store in Chestnut Hill. He then was employed by the Bethlehem Steel Corporation as a rate setter from 1940 to 1942. At this time Mr. Cistone decided to study law, at the same time to work his way through law school and to do so obtained employment at the Sun Oil Co. in Philadelphia as a bookkeeper where he was employed from 1942 to 1947, working days and attending law school in the evenings.

Mr. Cistone's knowledge of the law was soon recognized by the Professors of the law school and he was placed on and served two years on the Editorial Board of Temple Law Quarterly. Mr. Joseph Pugh, recognizing Mr. Cistone's legal ability, induced him to serve his clerkship with the Sun Oil Co.'s attorneys' office in Philadelphia. He later was admitted to the Bar of Northampton County Feb. 3, 1947, and for the next ten years practiced law in Bangor, being associated with the law firm of Davis, Pritchard and Cassebaum.

In October, 1957, he was appointed an Assistant United States Attorney in and for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, where he served continuously until his death on September 15, 1976, having an illustrious career in this office, trying hundreds of important cases for the United States in both Civil and Criminal trials, with a high degree of success. He was always well prepared and held in high esteem by the Federal Bench and Bar, both in the District Courts and the Circuit Court of Appeals. Mr. Cistone, although commuting

to and from the Federal Court House in Philadelphia daily by rail and automobile from his home in Bethlehem Township five days a week, carried more than his share of his office's services, he became the Senior Assistant U. S. Attorney, and as a reward was kept in office through several changes in administration, whether Republican or Democratic, over a span of twelve years.

Several years ago he received as a reward for ability and integrity shown, and for his steadfast devotion to duty, the appointment as Chief U. S. Attorney for claims against and claims for the United States, and tried many of these cases with a great degree of success — cases running from average claims to claims involving large amounts of money and property.

Sullivan Cistone was warm and helpful to the many attorneys from his home county and never turned down a request for help, both as to practice and procedure as required by the Federal Courts and the various rules both the District Court and the Circuit Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. He was always ready to move the admission of attorneys to the various courts when so requested, in many instances complimenting the attorneys while making the motion.

It would perhaps be inappropriate in a proceeding such as this to express my personal feelings of loss in his passing except to say that I have always considered him a model of what an Assistant U. S. Attorney should be and that I adored him as a man.

The Bench and Bar of Northampton County join in expressing our loss in the passing of Sullivan Cistone and join in the motion that when the court adjourns this day, it does so in honor of and out of respect for our departed Brother.

January 10, 1977