

**MEMORIAL FOR  
RAYMOND C. HAGGERTY, JR., Esquire**

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Remarks by Eric R. Shimer

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**TO THE HONORABLE, THE JUDGES OF THE SAID  
COURT:**

Raymond Carpenter Haggerty, Jr., was born in Tatamy on March 29, 1925. He was the son of Raymond C. Haggerty, Sr., and Mabel Barrall Haggerty. He grew up in the home-town atmosphere of Tatamy and Easton in the 1930s. He developed a fondness for fishing and hunting. His early life provided him with a strong sense of traditional American values and personal ties to the people in these communities, which he kept throughout his life.

Ray attended the March School and Easton High School. In order to prepare for college, he entered Blair Academy from which he was graduated in 1942. He went off to Amherst College in the fall of 1942. The Second World War was raging, and Ray turned eighteen in 1943. So, half-way through his baccalaureate, Ray left Amherst and joined the Army Air Forces.

The Army trained him as a navigator and gunner, promoted him to flight officer and, on January 8, 1945, sent him to England and the Eighth Air Force. He served as navigator on a B-17G. By VE Day, four months later, the young-looking twenty-year-old had been promoted to lead navigator for his group; he earned the following awards and decorations: Presidential Unit Citation, Good Conduct Medal, Air Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Victory Medal, and the ETO Ribbon with three battle stars. After the war, the Army offered to promote Ray to captain if he would stay on active status. But Ray had had enough of military life and declined.

Ray mustered out of the Army just after VJ Day and went home to Easton and the girl he had left behind: Jean Louise Dieruff. The tall, skinny red-head with the fiery temperament had met his match. Jean's patience and inexhaustible good humor were a perfect complement. Ray and Jean were married on November 17, 1945. Jean was the center of Ray's world for the rest of his life.

Ray returned to college in 1946; the newlyweds moved into one of the Quonset huts in the "GI Village" at Amherst. Ray was graduated in 1948, with a degree in economics. The starving-student lifestyle continued for three more years at the University of Pennsylvania Law School from which Ray received his law degree in 1951. These were the days of restricted admission to the bar, and Ray was finally admitted to the bar in October of 1953.

Ray had clerked under the preceptorship of Hugh P. McFadden, Esquire. But Mr. McFadden was unable to offer Ray a position. He was associated with Robert S. Taylor, Jr., Esquire, and Jacob S. Kolb, Esquire, at 535 Main Street, in Bethlehem. Under the names Taylor and Kolb, Taylor, Kolb and Haggerty, and Taylor and Haggerty, Ray was associated with Mr. Taylor on Main Street until 1975. I had clerked with Ray during my last two years of law school and, after my admission to the bar in 1973, I was associated with Taylor and Haggerty. In 1975, Ray and I left Main Street and moved our offices to better quarters in the new First Valley Bank building, at One Bethlehem Plaza. There we practiced together as Haggerty and Shimer for nine years.

Early in his career Ray discovered that he and trial work were incompatible, and he soon concentrated on the bread-and-butter part of his practice, real estate and probate. He also enjoyed counseling and negotiation, so he did a fair amount of domestic relations work. When Bethlehem adopted the strong-mayor form of government and elected H. Gordon Payrow, Jr., as mayor, Ray was appointed assistant city solicitor. Ray developed a fondness for municipal law and ultimately served as solicitor for the Borough of Tatamy, Saucon Valley School District, Eastern Northampton Vocational Technical School, Colonial Northampton Intermediate Unit No. 20, and the Lower Nazareth Township Authority. However, as active as these positions made Ray in local government, he avoided partisan politics; he always felt that he owed his clients, and himself, the benefit of independent judgment.

Ray also found time for service to his profession and to his community. He served as a member of the board of governors, treasurer, and president of the Northampton County Bar Association; he was a member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association as well as the county association. He was a director of the Easton Childrens Home and the Lehigh Valley Heart Association. He taught adult Sunday school at St. Peter's Reformed Church in Tatamy; he later became an active member of Christ Church, United Church of Christ, in

Bethlehem. He held memberships in the Bethlehem Rotary Club, the Bethlehem Club, and the Easton Anglers' Association.

But for Ray, the first priority always remained his family. Jean bore them three fine children: Raymond C., III, while they were at Amherst; Kevin M. while they sweated out admission to the bar; and Ann after they had established their home in Bethlehem. Financially the early years were difficult. But Ray's old-fashioned common sense put them in good stead: if you do not spend it until you have it, you can avoid a lot of trouble. By the time the kids were grown up, Ray's law practice had developed to the point where he was able to provide a college education for each of them; young Ray made it through dental school. The children may not have had all that they desired, but Ray and Jean gave them all they needed, with a lot of love and sensible guidance. When the children in turn married and established their own homes, Ray and Jean could, and did, take pride in the lives they had made.

Ray died on June 20, 1984, at the age of fifty-nine. By current standards, he had lived a short span. His family and friends still miss him. He loved people, and people responded in kind. Personally and professionally he was happiest when he could do something for someone else. At a time when the practice of law appears to be changing from a personal service to an impersonal business, Ray's death may mean the loss of a fundamental concept to the profession. We at the Bar have been enriched by his example.  
(September 4, 1987)