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John B. Hannum

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CHARLES ALVIN JONES*

Charles Alvin Jones, Dickinson School of Law, LL.B., 1910, and a Trustee from June, 1945 to 1966, was born at Newport on the banks of the Juniata River in Perry County. He attended local public schools, Mercersburg Academy and Williams College. Subsequently he received several honorary degrees from institutions of higher learning. He was admitted to the Pennsylvania Bar in 1910, and was associated in practice with Patterson, Sterrett and Acheson in Pittsburgh. For a number of years he served as County Solicitor of Allegheny County.

In 1917, before the United States had entered the First World War, he volunteered for Ambulance service with the French Army and was cited for heroism under fire. In 1918, he transferred to the aviation branch of the United States Navy and was commissioned Ensign, U.S.N.R.

He practiced law in Pittsburgh following the war as a partner with his previous firm, practicing under the name Sterrett, Acheson and Jones. In 1938, he was Democratic candidate for Governor of Pennsylvania. Following the election of Governor Arthur H. James, he returned to practice and in 1939 was appointed by President Roosevelt to the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. He served in that court until December 31, 1944, when he resigned to assume elected office as a Justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. He was Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania from December 1956, until July 31, 1961, when he retired because of seriously impaired vision. From 1961 he was of counsel with Morgan, Lewis and Bockius in Philadelphia.

Mrs. Jones is the former Isabella Arrott; she and a son, William Arrott Jones, Esquire, and daughter, Mrs. David C. Brittain, survive him. His son Charles Alvin Jones, Jr. (First Lieutenant U.S.M.C.R. Aviation) was killed in action over Mindanao, Philippine Islands in 1945.

His death on May 21, 1966, ended the career of one of the most distinguished alumni in the history of the Dickinson School of Law and one of the most outstanding jurists in the history of the Commonwealth.

* Written by John B. Hannum, LL.B., 1941, Dickinson School of Law; Trustee of the Dickinson School of Law; Partner, Pepper, Hamilton & Scheetz, Philadelphia.