Celebrating Labor Day

By Todd Blasdel

According to the U.S. Department of Labor, Labor Day is “an annual celebration of the social and economic achievements of American workers.” It is celebrated on the first Monday in September.

In the late 1800s, there was a national push for a federal holiday to recognize the contributions that workers had made to America’s well-being. Many citizens felt that American labor had raised the nation’s standard of living and contributed greatly to the American ideals of economic and political democracy.

The first non-federal Labor Day holiday was celebrated on Tuesday, September 5, 1882, in New York City. Within two years, 24 states had adopted the holiday. On June 28, 1894, President Grover Cleveland signed a law officially recognizing it as a federal holiday. Festivities that were outlined in the first proposal for Labor Day...
From the President

AND…THAT’S A WRAP!

By Shanda McKinney
President, OCBA

I will begin my last President’s Column in the customary way – with many thanks and humility for your support, participation and positive feedback during my tenure. This has been the first “normal” bar year since 2019 and, even so, it is something of a new “normal” we are working with. Most OCBA meetings are held with a Zoom option in the event you absolutely, positively cannot pry yourself away from your desk to join your peers. Constant vigilance is held on the local COVID numbers, and while I suspect we will not be returning to mandatory mask wearing at OCBA functions, the last two and a half years have taught me never to take anything for granted.

There was much valuable work accomplished by your OCBA this year. The Community Service Committee kicked things up a serious notch with at least one volunteer project every single month. Both Raising the Bar and the Awards Luncheon were held in person again, as was the Law Day Luncheon (TWICE!). The Bench and Bar Conference included many young lawyers and first-time attendees, and the CLE programming was an all-around success. Perhaps the most gratifying result of the last year is the knowledge that the stewardship of our full-time bar staff has resulted in an organization which continues to be fiscally sound and growing in numbers.

Speaking of numbers, have you noticed that pretty much everything has gotten more expensive? Even a casual observer of local real estate prices would notice a significant bump over the last few years, and we all know what’s been going on with gas prices even more recently. Groceries are substantially more expensive than they were this time last year – inflation of the price of consumer goods is hovering around 9% over the last 12 months – and some items or brands can even be difficult to locate, if at all.

These same price increases are also affecting rent, salary expectations, office supplies, postage and a host of other expenses necessary to keep this organization running smoothly and in a financially responsible way. Our faithful and reliable Bar Staff have not received a raise of any kind in three years! While the income of the OCBA has held rather steady, in spite of recent COVID interruptions, that income is not going to be sufficient to sustain our business operations for very much longer.

The OCBA has not raised its annual dues in almost two decades! Given the CLE offerings and opportunities for fun, networking and community service, I do believe this organization offers the most bang for the buck of any professional legal organization available to Oklahoma practitioners. We intend to maintain this commitment to our members over the long run, even if it is now costing a bit more to keep the lights on.

I will be passing the torch to a very able and energetic attorney named Cody Cooper, who no doubt will lead the OCBA quite successfully through the next bar year with the much-appreciated assistance and guidance of our stellar Bar Staff. The formal ceremony for this transition occurs at Raising the Bar, which will be held at the Devon Boathouse on September 9, 2022. Please keep an eye out for information regarding the purchase of tickets to this event, which will have largely the same format as last year. Although I will no longer be President come August 31, I intend to stick around and continue participating in OCBA activities, just as I did prior to becoming President. I would love to be surrounded by thousands of my dedicated colleagues when I do so. Welcome, Cody, and thank you ALL again for this special opportunity to serve.
Norman v. Norman, - - - -

help finding the cruise package just right

according to my ever-lovin' boy toy Chips,

edents. So, there’s gonna have to be some

no statute prohibiting it. California took

the court said, yes so long as there was

is old and inconsistent. For example, in

perform marriages. Also, the president

its territorial waters. It becomes a bit more

marriage by a ship captain if performed in

registered. Those are few and far between.

of the matter is that it usually depends on

as being an ordained minister. The fact

cruise lines do offer wedding packages, but

twenty guys to kill one. Come off it! Some

and it’s easier for one guy to kill twenty for

someone from the tower talks him down,

marriages for other people. Right, and

why you need a landlubber married to the

it, Mr. P’s narrative is, so far, back in

February. I’ll let him fill you in on the gory

and what-not, so you didn’t hear this from

me, okay?). So once I asked him why he
didn’t get down in of those cages and swim

with the sharks. He pretty much said it’s for

the same reason he doesn’t parachute — no

need to jump out of a perfectly good plane.

Took me a minute to work that one out, but

I managed to in the course of a weekend.

Anyway, in case you haven’t realized it,

Mr. P’s narrative is, back in February. I’ll let
him fill you in on the gory (and some of them, in all honesty, are 😒)
details in his own good time after he gets

back. Meantime I’ll clue you in on a bit on the

here and now. But first, a question:

Dear Roscoe: Can a ship captain really

marry people? J.A., Edmond, OK

Dear J.A.: Well what else can ship
captains marry? Oh, you mean perform

marriages for other people? Right, and

anybody can fly a jumbo jet so long as

someone from the tower talks him down, and

it’s easier for one guy to kill twenty for

twenty guys to kill one. Come off it! Some

cruise lines do offer wedding packages, but

of the matter is that it usually depends on

as being an ordained minister. The fact

cruise lines do offer wedding packages, but

twenty guys to kill one. Come off it! Some

might help with the dishes and stuff.

What? I catch her pouring all the

unseen milk back into the carton — from

my glass, Chelle’s glass, her gross little

brother’s cereal bowl, even the little bit

of the milk carton and it’s good old Hohnecker’s

dairy and the date’s fine. I couldn’t figure

out why the funny taste.

“Right? And so I go, ‘Hey Ms. B., what

are you doing?’ and then she looks shocked

and says, ‘I’m just clearing the table.’”

“And I’m like, ‘Eww, how much

Benedetti backwash have I been drinking

since I been coming over here?’ So she

gets all embarrassed and teary and runs

upstairs. Chelle gives me the stink eye

and runs up there after her. Couple of minutes

later she comes back down with my things

and tosses me out. We never spoke to each

other again. And before, you ask me, yes, I

tried to reach out.”

“Wow,” said Chips, “and you just ran

into her this week?”

“Yeah, last Tuesday. She flagged me

down on the checkout line at Kohl’s and

then we had dinner over at Panera’s.”

“Linner?”

“Yeah, a light lunch and dinner com

bined. You know, like brunch?”

“Got it.”

“Anyway, her poor mom had some kinda

breakdown after that. They even featured

her on Hoarders a couple of years ago. But,

yeah, tomorrow we’re gonna see Maverick

and eat someplace nice.”

“Or not,” a third voice chimed in.

So this guy stands in the doorway grin

ning. The he walks around in the waiting

room like he’s considering buying the

joint. He had an ageless sort of face, most

likely thirty-something to forty-something.

Not bad looking at all — he had one of

those work tans. You know, the kind that

don’t come from spas or laying out at The

Shore. He wore a short-sleeved plaid shirt

and jeans I’d call indigo, and the whitest

sneakers I’ve ever seen outside a store.

He had an accent I couldn’t place, except
definitely not Italian or Spanish. I wished I

knew more words or phrases in European

so I could check him out and place him.

His smile seemed a little strange, genuine

but distant at the same time.

“Can I help you?” I asked.

He thought a moment then sighed. “Not

really, I don’t think. I hope you won’t

excuse me. I didn’t want to come in until you

finished your wonderful story. Very amusing.

You are quite the raconteur.”

“No,” I said back to him. “I never

opened up a business.”

His smile grew wider. “Of course. I only

hope your enchanted evening for tomor

down won’t — oh, what is the idiom- go

sideways.”

“What are you talking about?”

“Well, I’m just thinking out loud. But if

you had insulted my mother, maybe even

casioned her to have a breakdown, I might

bide my time. Then, after a while, I’d seek

you out. I’d offer an olive branch, dinner

and a movie, say. Then, in the dark of the

theatre or some parking lot, I would bide

my time then avenge my family.”

At his point, Chips stood up and, as

casually as he could, moved closer to me.

Our visitor said, “Ah yes, the clever

boy, I know about you. So you are also the

knights it seems.”

“Who are you?” Chips asked.

“My name is Envar Kaleko. You may

have heard of me.”

“Rae, move behind me into Mr. Pound’s

office and call the police.”

“So, the aikido master,” Kalenko said.

“But you needn’t fear me. I just stopped by

to ask you both to remind Mr. Pound how

I’m still not killing him.”

He backed out the door. I hit the panic

button that brought some of the guys from

the parts yard, but Kalenko couldn’t be

found.

Chips brought me a bottle of water. I

remained at my desk palliating and won-

dering if I should cancel my plans.

I’ll probably see him in my nightmares

TTFN

Areyna Darquesenes

Ever vigilant Empress of the Knight.

*******
IN MEMORIAM
Duke Halley

By Rex Travis

Ivan D. “Duke” Halley died August 8, 2022, at the age of 74. Duke was not as widely-known among the Oklahoma County Bar as he was among lawyers of the state or region who practice personal injury or Workers’ Compensation law. Duke’s special skill was handling oilfield accident cases, both in Workers’ Compensation and in District Court.

Duke came honestly by his skill in oilfield cases. He was born in Vici, in Northwestern Oklahoma, and grew up in oil fields all over the country. When Duke was in the fourth grade, the family moved back to Northwest Oklahoma, by then the site of an oil boom.

Duke and Charlene, his wife of 55 years, dated after they met at age 15 and were in school at Sharon. They married while students together at Northwestern Oklahoma, and grew up in oil fields all over the country. When Duke was in the fourth grade, the family moved back to Northwest Oklahoma, by then the site of an oil boom.

Duke then went to law school at OU and graduated in 1973. He went to work at the firm in Woodward which became Hieronymus, Hodgen, Halley & Meyer.

Tom Hieronymus was well-respected and something of an institution in the Northwest Oklahoma. Duke learned well from Tom and became a well-known member of the bar. Duke ultimately tried oilfield injury cases all over Oklahoma, Arkansas, New Mexico and Texas, often in association with Sam Stein, well-known in Texas oil fields.

Duke left the Hieronymus firm and established his own firm in Woodward. He was something of a “one-man band” and realized he was spending a lot of time traveling from Woodward to Oklahoma City to try Workers’ Compensation cases. He moved to Oklahoma City but kept his home and a ranch near Woodward.

It became my pleasure and honor to rent space in my office to Duke until he built his own office and the firm which became Halley, Talbot and Smithton. Danny Talbot and Duke worked in the Oklahoma City office and Duke and Shane Smithton were in the Woodward office. I never understood how Duke was able to do all the things he did, including run his ranch and farming operation where he raised wheat and ran cattle. Duke did all that and took regular family vacations with Charlene and their two daughters. He ultimately did all that, including spending time with his grandchildren in the later years. Duke certainly handled “work life balance” better than I did!

There’s a very “Duke-like” story behind his ranching operation. Long before Duke’s practice was such as to enable him to buy land and cattle and run a farm and ranch, Dukes family had been farmers and ranchers. When they all went into other things he did, including run his ranch and farming operation where he raised wheat and ran cattle. Duke did all that and took regular family vacations with Charlene and their two daughters. He ultimately did all that, including spending time with his grandchildren in the later years. Duke certainly handled “work life balance” better than I did!

It was the conclusion of a life well-lived in oilfield. Duke was a gentleman as well as the practical working lawyer and wonderful friend.

Just two years ago I had the pleasure of working with Duke on an oil field injury case. Duke was great to work with because he had both the legal knowledge as well as the practical working side because he grew up in the oil field. Duke was a gentleman to opposing counsel and had their respect for sure. Needless to say, I learned a ton from him and will dearly miss him. Towards the end of our case, his health started to falter but not his attitude. In spite of some hospitalizations along the way, he amazingly kept up the case and outworked the defense. He will always be a near and dear friend to me.- Bryce Johnson, Oklahoma City

We lost a great advocate today. I am sad to hear of Duke’s passing. He was wonderful to me as a young plaintiff’s lawyer. I can see I wasn’t alone.

I will miss Duke. He always took my calls, listened, talked and advised me. In turbulent times, Duke was a solid voice and friend to me. My greatest hope is that he rests in peace and lives long in our thoughts and memories.

- Tim Gilpin, Tulsa

Duke helped me years ago with a trucking case in the panhandle and several cases since then. If you had a case in NW Oklahoma, I found it was best to seek Duke’s advice about the venue, the judge and the jury. He was so helpful to me as a young lawyer. I earned great respect for Duke and I learned that he was not afraid to take a marginal case if it met his sniff test. And, he often made them work. It just takes the right attorney to recognize it. I always wanted to get to know Duke better, although he always treated me as an old friend. He was a great attorney and a legend.

- Todd Mercer, McAlester.

Duke was pricelesss, a great attorney and wonderful friend. He went through a long medical fight, and Charlene and her children are first class.

- Hank Meyer, Oklahoma City.

In the practice of law I think there is almost nothing more valuable than a good mentor. Duke was a classic. He will be missed.

- Ted Sherwood, Tulsa.

I’m honored to have known Duke and help him fight for Oklahomaans. We should all raise a class to him.

- Frank Fraisier, Tulsa.

We will miss him greatly. His family suggests contributions in lieu of flowers to The Multiple Sclerosis Society, 1050 N. Post Oak Road, Suite 240, Houston, TX 77055 or online https://secure.nationalmssociety.org/site/Donation2?df_id=63293&63293.donation=form1&mfc_pre=T.

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Bar Observer

KELSEY A. CHILCOAT JOINS PHILLIPS MURRAH’S LEGAL TEAM IN OKLAHOMA OFFICE

Phillips Murra is proud to welcome Kelsey A. Chilcoat to the Firm’s legal team. Kelsey represents individuals and corporations in a broad range of matters and through all stages of litigation, including first and third-party insurance defense, intellectual property, landlord/tenant disputes, and breach of contract.

Her practice focuses in the areas of insurance litigation with emphasis in first-party automobile and property, breach of contract, bad faith, and construction law.

Kelsey is a member of Oklahoma Bar Association and Oklahoma County Bar Association. Kelsey is admitted to practice before the United States District Courts for the Western, Northern and Eastern Districts of Oklahoma.

Kelsey graduated with honors from the University of Tulsa College of Law in 2016, after earning her Bachelors in Entrepreneurial Business with a minor in Business Law from Oklahoma State University in 2012. While in law school, she served as Editor-in Chief of the Energy Law Journal and was a member of the legal honor society, Phi Delta Phi. Kelsey was born and raised in Choctaw, Oklahoma, and currently lives in Oklahoma City. Kelsey serves as a member of the Executive Board of Directors for the Uptown 23rd District Association.

McCONNELL-CORBYN RECEIVES NATIONAL APPOINTMENT

Laura McConnell-Corbyn, of the law firm Hartzog Conger Cason, has been appointed as a member of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws by Oklahoma Governor, J. Kevin Stitt.

The Uniform Law Commission (ULC, also known as the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws), established in 1892, provides states with non-partisan, well-conceived and well-drafted legislation that brings clarity and stability to critical areas of state statutory law.

Old News

Vol. 5 No. 6, June 1973

Abortion and the Law

In June, the O.C.B.A. will feature a speaker uniquely qualified to discuss one of the most dramatic and controversial issues of our time. Sarah Ragle Weddington is the attorney who successfully argued against the constitutionality of the Texas abortion statute before the United States Supreme Court in the Landmark case of Jane Roe, et al vs. Henry Wade. She will discuss the legal implications of abortion during the noon luncheon to be held in the Ballroom of the Skirvin, on June 28, 1973. Oklahoma Attorneys (including those attorneys who are state legislators) should find this discussion of immediate value and interest.

Ms. Weddington is a 1967 graduate of the University of Texas School of Law. She has served as an assistant City Attorney for the City of Fort Worth, Texas, an assistant reporter to the Committee of the American Bar Association, and a partner in the law firm of Weddington & Weddington in Austin, Texas. Ms. Weddington is the first woman elected from Travis County to the Texas House of Representatives. She serves on the Appropriations, Insurance, and Criminal Jurisprudence committees of the House. Ms. Weddington is active in numerous womens organizations and population control groups. She serves on the Editorial Advisory Board of the Family Planning/Population Reporter and is a member of the Zero Population Growth.

Endnotes


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YOUNG LAWYERS HOLD SPRING TRIVIA

1st Place Team: “Swadley Sweaty Bottom Boys” — Charles Schreck, presenter Barrett Fuller, Braden Hoffman and Jerrod Geiger

2nd Place Team: “OKC Rings” — Emma Kincaide, Gentry Kincaide, Grant Gibson, presenter Barrett Fuller and Ben Grubb

Best Team Name: “Three Men & A Baby Lawyer” — Ryan Oldfield, Anna Bookout, David Donchin and Edd Pritchett

COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE FILLS PINE PANTRIES

The OCBA Community Service Committee took on the Pine Pantries as their July service project. They filled 6 Pine Pantries with donations from the committee and their co-workers!
What does it mean to be a Reading Buddy?

Reading Buddies visit their assigned school once a week and spend 30-45 minutes reading with students.

Reading Buddies meet during the school day at a time determined by the principal, ensuring students do not miss core reading instruction.

Reading Buddies will meet with the same group of 1-4 students each week from September to March.

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Contact Abbie Vaughan (abbie@okckids.com) for more information about how you can serve as a Reading Buddy!
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Hot Murder and Apricot Cordials - Conclusion

By Jeffery W. Massey
Asst. Dist. Attorney

The exact events of the night of April 3-4, 1922, will be forever enshrouded in salacious gossip and felonious mystery. The societal celebrities involved, the gruesome crime scene, the “official investigation” and the disputed forensic evidence makes this murder ripe for a centennial review.

As previously noted, our protagonist, Judge Jean Prentiss Day, was a man of means. He was a former State Supreme Court Justice and executive officer with several oil companies. He was well heeled and traveled only in the company of Oklahoma City’s elite. Our “antagonist,” Paul Beck, was the son of a career U.S. Army general. His father had died in 1911 and was buried in Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors.

On April 3, 1922, Beck had flown up from Ft. Sill, Oklahoma, to spend the evening with the Days. Upon his arrival at the Day home, Mrs. Aubye Day was away at a friend’s home and the Judge had not yet arrived home from work. After Judge Day arrived, the two old friends went into the house to drink apricot cordials and await Aubye. [This according to the statement to the coroner’s inquest jury]. After downing their drinks, they drove to pick up Aubye Day from her girlfriend’s house and then proceeded to the Skirvin Hotel for dinner.

At dinner, Lt. Colonel Beck invited the Days to a movie at the Orpheum Theater. Interestingly, the movie was entitled “Black Is White” and had a run time of one hour. In a bizarre twist of fate, the 1920 film was the story of a jealous husband who shoots a believed paramour of his wife. While the movie was forgettable, its parallel to subsequent events is somewhat disturbing.

Judge Day apparently begged off and permitted Beck to accompany Aubye Day to the theater that evening while he concluded some business at his office in the Colcord Building. A few hours later, the Judge returned to the Skirvin Hotel to fetch Beck and Aubye. Instead, he received a note there that they had gone to the “Prichard’s house” and that he should join them. It is believed that it is now past 10:00 p.m.

At the Prichard’s, Judge Day was greeted by a party that was in full swing. It is believed that many of the Oklahoma City oil elite were present and well acquainted with the partying abilities of the Days. Judge Day’s witness stand testimony described it as people “singing and dancing and whooping away some nice hours after a day’s work.” [It was a Monday night[]. There is no mention of intoxicating liquor in the refreshments, however it is difficult to imagine a late evening party that did not include such beverages. Drinking alcoholic beverages was illegal both in Oklahoma and the United States at that time, but different rules applied to different social classes.

Somehow the tireless 49-year old Judge announced that the party should move to their house to listen to some “splendid dance records” his daughter owned. Aubye served drinks all around including apricot cordials which she testified, at the inquest, were “non-intoxicating.”

It was now well past midnight and the party rolled on. Judge Day apparently had to drive several of the revelers home. Aubye and Lt. Col. Beck declined to accompany the judge. She, due to “aching feet,” and Beck volunteered to “keep her company.”

It was now between 1:30-2:15 a.m. as the judge pulled away from the curb. As he dropped his charges off at their homes, he was enticed at least once to come inside, listen to another record and to view a “fuzzy tailed” cat. More stops were made, and the Judge returned to his home on 19th Street for the final time sometime between 2:30-3 a.m.

According to Day’s testimony, as he stepped up onto his porch, he could see directly into his living room through the large picture windows. According to Judge Day, he saw his friend Beck “fighting” with his wife on the sofa. Day stated that, “she had her hands up and was fighting for her life.” Day said Col. Beck was entwined with Aubye Day, with “his right arm around her shoulders and his left arm around her knees.”

Mrs. Aubye Day, at the inquest and under oath, stated that Beck had grabbed her and said, “Girl, girl, you swept me off my feet.” Mrs. Day stated that Beck asked her to come to his room that night. Mrs. Beck allegedly cried, “You don’t know what you are saying; I could not do that!”

Judge Day stated that he quickly entered through the front door and Beck immediately stood up and fled through the curtains that separated the living room from the dining room. According to Day, without further verbal confrontation, he went upstairs and retrieved his...
pistol from the bedroom. Mrs. Day did not recall Mr. Day’s arrival. According to her testimony, as Judge Day appeared at the bottom of the stairs with the pistol, she cried “My God, Daddy, don’t do that!”

Judge Day testified that he did not see Beck on the divan with Aubye and “went through the house to the back” looking for Beck. He stated he found Beck “near the portieres (swag drapes used to separate rooms) in the dining room.” Day said as he approached his friend Beck, the lieutenant colonel “jumped to one side and pulled his hand back as though he were going to fight.” Day testified that he “swung the gun back and struck with all the force I had in my arm as he sought to dodge by swinging his body sideways. The gun hit him in the side of the head and floored him. I knew he was dangerously injured because the revolver had exploded when I hit him. I swore to [Aubye] ...and to God, ...that I never intended to kill Col. Beck. I [only] intended to drive him from my home, as he should have been driven.”

Judge Day then admonished the County Attorney Forrest Hughes from the stand. Hughes had made statements to the newspapers that reflected he did not believe the Days were being completely forthright regarding all the facts and details of Beck’s death. Day berated the County Attorney for his own innocence and for insinuating that Day may have become enraged for seeing Mrs. Day in a compromising position upon his return. Hughes had also apparently insinuated that Mrs. Day had been “immoral” and was not a “pure and innocent” woman.

When summoned to testify by Coroner Justice McWilliams, Mrs. Day, wearing black mourning clothes and a veil, started her testimony. She was so soft spoken the judge had to gavel the veil, started her testimony. She was so wearing black mourning clothes and a veil, started her testimony. She was so

Million-dollar woman.

Mrs. Day’s otherwise very self-serving testimony does contain two interesting points: First, she did not recall “whether [she] ever beat his face.” There was no evidence that Beck had any fight marks/scratches upon his face from the hands/ fingernails of Ms. Day. There was no evidence of Mrs. Day having bruising, torn clothing, or other evidence of a struggle with a military man which lasted 45 minutes.

Aubye’s second noteworthy statement about the struggle with Beck concerned her shoes. She stated to the inquest that she must have kicked off her shoes while on the couch struggling with Beck. This is an interesting detail, since she had earlier declined to go with her husband because her feet hurt. So she waited until she is in her shoes. She stated to the inquest that the crime scene contained ‘sliced

The United States Army was not amused by the death and acquittal of the Days. Holding their own separate inquiry a few days later, the army officers were perplexed when the Days appeared with legal counsel Pruitt. When informed that the Days would only be able to testify without Pruitt being present, the Washita Stud went apoplectic. He began screaming about military court rules being damned and how he had the constitutional rights of an American citizen and legal counsel. Pruitt opened his briefcase and retrieved several letters that he then tossed upon the table of the courts martial. These letters, Pruitt explained, were letters from women at other posts where Beck had been stationed. These letters contained “allegations” about the Lieutenant Colonel’s conduct with other women. This revelation came as a complete surprise and stymied the otherwise hardened military men. They had expected to put the Days on the defense, and perhaps get the Bureau of Investigation involved. But this information smacked of scandal and that is anathema to the military.

It took the army four months to formally disagree with the findings of the Oklahoma inquest, but they made no direct independent findings of guilt. The board also determined that Beck had flown to Oklahoma City on official business and, therefore died “in the line of duty.” Beck’s son was resentful regarding the findings and believed his father had been set up to take the fall for the murder committed by Judge Day.

Lt. Colonel Beck was afforded an honor guard and fly-over when the train carried his body back to Washington D.C. He was buried in Arlington National Cemetery, near his father General Beck, and with the ashes of his wife who had died the previous year.

The inquest into the death of Lt. Col. Beck was the death knell for the society life of Judge and Aubye Day. The social register of Oklahoma City events goes silent as to their participation or being seen “round town.” In 1927, five years after the shooting, Aubye Day filed for divorce from Judge Jean P. Day. Newspapers reported she claimed mental cruelty and abandonment in her filing. Aubye Day died in 1939 and is buried in Poteau. Her tombstone, despite the divorce, records her married name - Aubye Day.

Judge Day remarried in 1928 and had a short-lived marriage that also ended in divorce. Judge Day continued to be of counsel and practiced law from Room 312, Colcord Building, until his death at age 91 in 1964. At the time of his death, he resided with his daughter in Oklahoma City. He is buried at Memorial Park Cemetery in Oklahoma City.

Like many other holidays, the original spirit and meaning of the celebration is often forgotten. A long weekend at the lake and the return of college football tend to overshadow Labor Day’s unique purpose. However, the resilience of those working in our legal community has been crucial in overcoming many difficulties presented by the COVID-19 pandemic. In our local legal community, we should pause to recognize and celebrate our judges, court administrators, courthouse workers, jurors, paralegals, legal assistants, court reporters, mediators and fellow attorneys for the hard work and achievement of keeping our legal system moving forward during these challenging times.

Sources: www.dol.gov

LABOR DAY continued from page 1

included local street parades, followed by a festival for the recreation and amusement of American workers and their families.

Like many other holidays, the original spirit and meaning of the celebration is often forgotten. A long weekend at the lake and the return of college football tend to overshadow Labor Day’s unique purpose. However, the resilience of those working in our legal community has been crucial in overcoming many difficulties presented by the COVID-19 pandemic. In our local legal community, we should pause to recognize and celebrate our judges, court administrators, courthouse workers, jurors, paralegals, legal assistants, court reporters, mediators and fellow attorneys for the hard work and achievement of keeping our legal system moving forward during these challenging times.

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