

**RESOLUTION IN MEMORIAM
OF
ERSKINE W. WELLS, SR.**

WHEREAS, the Lord called our friend and fellow Elder to join him in heaven on Wednesday, October 15, 2003, it is now appropriate to review Erskine's life:

- Erskine was a native of Jackson; a graduate of Central High School and later graduated from the University of Mississippi; and
- With Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor and our country's entry into World War II, Erskine received orders during his first year of law school calling him to duty in the United States Marine Corps and deferring his graduation until his return from active duty; and
- Before entering the service, Erskine and his college sweetheart, Nell Upscher of Greenwood, married, beginning a faithful Christ-centered marriage which would span 52 years, ending with Nell's death in 1994; and
- Erskine was given command of a company and was shipped to Guadalcanal in the Soloman Islands with other U.S. Marine forces to assault the well entrenched Japanese forces and, while in the midst of fierce fighting, he assumed command of an additional company with the loss of its commander; and
- Having been ordered to lead both companies in a counter-attack against the Japanese and knowing that it would entail hand-to-hand and bayonet-to-bayonet

combat, Erskine encouraged his troops and led them in their charge with the Rebel Yell; and

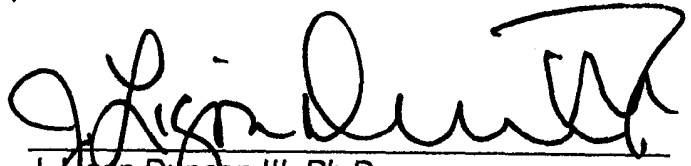
- For his heroic deeds on Guadalcanal, Erskine received the Navy Cross, and for other acts of heroism he was awarded the Silver Star; and
- Having returned after approximately two years in the South Pacific Theater, he graduated from Ole Miss Law School, began his practice with the firm of Wells, Thomas & Wells, later serving as partner in the law firm of Wells, Marble & Hurst, and he and his beloved Nell had two sons, Erskine W. Wells, Jr., now living in Jackson, and the Reverend Andrew P. Wells, now serving in the pastorate in Ocean Springs; and
- In the more than fifty years following his wartime exploits, Erskine focused his energies, enthusiasm and resourcefulness in the legal profession and was accorded positions of highest leadership and award; in business and commerce, where he served on boards of directors; but, were he standing before us today, we are certain that he would point to his service at First Presbyterian Church where he was installed as a Deacon on January 26, 1947, and was ordained as an Elder on April 29, 1951; to his service as a co-founder of the First Presbyterian Day School and to his service as co-founder of Reformed Theological Seminary endeavors of most significance to Erskine; and

- This man to whom the motto "Semper Fidelis" was ingrained not only in his military service but in all aspects of his life, whether church, family, profession or Faith, is fondly and affectionately remembered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Session of First Presbyterian Church of Jackson, Mississippi, memorializes the service of Erskine W. Wells, Sr., to his Savior, Jesus Christ; to his wife and sons; to First Presbyterian Church and to his country, while sharing in his family's grief.

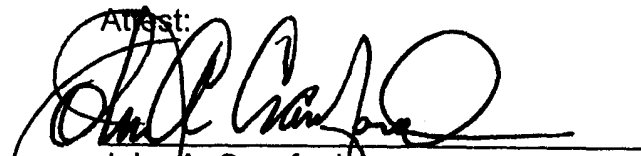
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be given to his son Erskine W. Wells, Jr., and his son Rev. Andrew P. Wells and that the same be spread on the Minutes of the Session.

THIS, the 10th day of November, 2003.



J. Ligon Duncan III, Ph.D.
Moderator

Attest:



John A. Crawford
Clerk of the Session