

William L. Lloyd, legal 'tiger,' dies at 88

By PETER STRESCINO

The Pueblo Chieftain

All "tiger" in the courtroom and a real power in Colorado and national Republican politics, William L. Lloyd was still remembered Tuesday as a man who would take time to help young lawyers learn their craft.

Lloyd, a Pueblo native and Central High School graduate at 16 before earning Phi Beta Kappa honors at the University of Colorado, died Sunday. He was 88.

Lloyd, who also was a renowned baseball player in his time, was a member of the state senate from 1934 to 1938; a Pueblo deputy district attorney, 1931-33; and Pueblo city attorney, 1948-52.

But his most powerful post, one in which he had a valued opinion on the tight Republican presidential nomination of 1952 between eventual President Dwight D. Eisenhower and Robert Taft, was as Colorado State Republican Chairman.

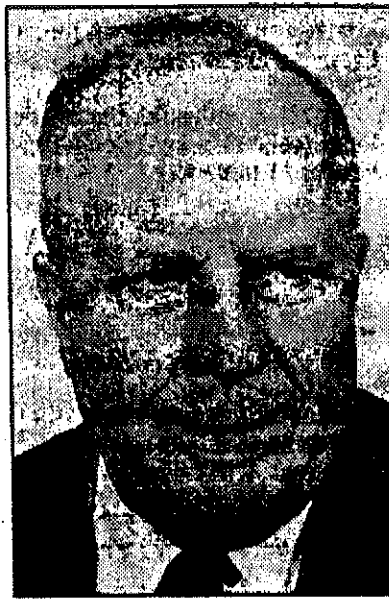
Lloyd held that post from 1942 through 1954.

"He was a very learned man," remembered Lloyd's longtime secretary, Rosemary Goodwin. "A brilliant man, and highly ethical."

Ms. Goodwin started working for Lloyd after he basically left state politics, in 1960. But her memories of Lloyd are of a lawyer who could handle virtually any type of case.

Lloyd's father and grandfather were steel men, remembered his daughter, Audra Culp of Pueblo. They played a big part in starting the rolling mill at CF&I, where Lloyd worked summers during his school years.

"He was also an excellent catcher," she said of her father's base-



William L. Lloyd

ball career. "He had an invitation to try out for the Chicago White Sox, but could not afford the traveling expenses."

Lloyd also was a Sherlock Holmes buff, read widely in English literature, bought and explored old mines, and loved swing-era Big Band music, which will be played at his funeral, Ms. Culp said. He also umpired baseball games, she said.

"Daddy left us a rich, warm heritage," his oldest of three daughters, Carol Muse of Colorado Springs, said Tuesday. "And he had a keen sense of politics. He always seemed to be on the right side."

That, according to the record, is putting it mildly. In his 12 years as Republican chairman, GOP candidates won 407 of 602 state senate and state representative races, for a 66 percent winning ratio — a number any baseball man would be very proud of.

Four Republican governors

were elected in six races during his time in the chair, and Republicans won 15 of 18 state races for attorney general, lieutenant governor and secretary of state.

Local lawyer Wes Kettelkamp remembered Lloyd as a tough opponent in the courtroom and a good friend out of it.

"I was the DA, and we had an oral confession from a burglar who was caught one-half block from the place he broke into and the merchandise was 5 feet from him when he was captured at 2 a.m.," Kettelkamp remembered Tuesday. "Bill took over the case, and comes into my office and says, 'You don't have much of a case.'"

"Well, he took me into court and whipped me. He was a damned good trial lawyer, who raised holy hell in court, and a tremendous orator."

Kettelkamp said Lloyd personally knew "about three-quarters of the South Side. That's where his client base came from, his friends, and he did a lot of that work pro-bono (for free)."

Retired District Court Judge Richard Robb also remembered Lloyd fondly.

"I remember him in politics and the law," said Robb, also a former Pueblo city councilman. "He was involved in a lot of things."

"But as busy as he was, and as important, I still remember him taking time to help me out as a young lawyer. I learned a lot from him."

And later, when Robb presided over cases in which Lloyd practiced, he still learned from him.

"He was one of the best advocates to ever appear in front of me," Robb said. "He was a tiger in the courtroom."

William L. Lloyd, a lifelong Pueblo resident, passed away Aug. 22, 1993. He was 88. Mr. Lloyd served in the Colorado State Senate in the early 1930s, and was the State Republican Party Chairman from 1948 through 1960. He practiced law in Pueblo from 1929 until 1989, and served as the Pueblo City Attorney for many years. William was a member of the Elks Lodge No. 90, Pueblo; Lodge No. 17 AF&AM, Order of Eastern Star Adah Chapter No. 34, as well as the Kappa Sigma Fraternity, the Pueblo County, Colorado, and American Bar Associations and The Denver Club. He is survived by his wife, Carmen of Denver, three daughters, Carol Muse of Colorado Springs, Barbara (Charles) Reicherseder of Denver, Audra Culp of Pueblo; a cousin, Edna Lloyd of Pueblo; as well as three grandchildren, Ronald Muse, William Reicherseder, Tracy Ridpath, and one great-grandchild, Victoria Reicherseder. Mr. Lloyd will lie in state at the mortuary from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. on Wednesday. A funeral service will be held at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 26, 1993, in the St. Peter the Apostle Episcopal Church, 3939 Pueblo Blvd., with Father Daniel Crawford officiating. Interment will follow in the Mountain View Cemetery. Contributions in memory of Mr. Lloyd may be made to the St. Peter Episcopal Church or the Sanege de Cristo Hospice in Pueblo. The family will greet friends at a reception in the church following the service.