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## Tribute to C. Stuart Brown

Honorable Robert B. Ranck

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## Tribute

*Honorable Robert B. Ranck*

Every once in a while we meet someone we instantly like. Such was the case when I met Stuart. He was then the County and Prosecuting Attorney for Lincoln County and had his office on the second floor of the courthouse in Kemmerer. I do not remember the circumstance that took me to Kemmerer, but in those days the Third Judicial District headquartered there. It was, after all, the home of the presiding judge, H. R. Christmas.

In the some thirty years that have passed, I have never heard Stuart say a bad thing about anyone. A kinder, more gentle man has never passed my way. These attributes served him well in the ensuing years as District Judge and then as Supreme Court Justice. More importantly, they have inured to the benefit of his family, friends, and those he has spent a lifetime serving—the people of the State of Wyoming.

He always meets you with a ready smile and a kind word, never with a thought of self-adulation. It is always the other person who receives his attention.

So it has been with his career. We, the people of Wyoming, have reaped the benefit of his common sense approach to the law and his deep, clear understanding of human nature. His keen ability to understand "the bottom line" and to express it with clarity and humor have helped us all.

Perhaps this man, this fine human being, can be best described by the note he placed next to his picture, which hangs in my office:

"To my good friend Ranck,

C. Stuart Brown,

Former Notary Public"

At my request, Justice Brown reluctantly gave me that picture while he was Chief Justice. He seemed embarrassed that I would have it in my office.

His service, his deeds, his sacrifices, and his hard work stand for themselves.

So it is with the Great Ones.

So it is with C. Stuart Brown.