



Fall 9-1-1946

William Haywood Moreland

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarlycommons.law.wlu.edu/wlulr>



Part of the [Legal Biography Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

William Haywood Moreland, 4 Wash. & Lee L. Rev. 32 (1946).

Available at: <https://scholarlycommons.law.wlu.edu/wlulr/vol4/iss1/4>

This Note is brought to you for free and open access by the Washington and Lee Law Review at Washington and Lee University School of Law Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Washington and Lee Law Review by an authorized editor of Washington and Lee University School of Law Scholarly Commons. For more information, please contact christensena@wlu.edu.

WILLIAM HAYWOOD MORELAND

William Haywood Moreland was born September 17, 1879, at Norfolk, Virginia, and died in Lexington, Virginia, on March 10, 1944. His parents were Robert William and Margaret Ann (Haywood) Moreland. He spent his early life in Norfolk, where he engaged in business prior to his entering the School of Law, Washington and Lee University. He received the degree of Bachelor of Laws in 1906 and returned to Norfolk where he successfully engaged in the practice of law in the firm of Baird, Swink and Moreland until 1914, when he was called back to his *alma mater* to occupy a chair in the Law School from which he had graduated with honors. On the resignation of Dean Martin P. Burks to become a member of the Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia, he was appointed the Vincent L. Bradford Professor of Law, and in 1923, was appointed dean of the Law School. In 1933 he was given the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws by Hampden-Sydney College. He continued as Dean and Bradford Professor of Law until the time of his death, thus completing thirty years of teaching, the longest teaching record in the history of the Law School.

Dean Moreland was a man of strong personality, and his influence was felt by all who came in contact with him. He was by nature a scholar and teacher, which accounts for his giving up a lucrative practice to become a teacher of law. He had a broad field of intellectual interest and read widely, but his particular interest was the law. While he specialized in the procedural subjects, his interest covered the whole field of jurisprudence. During his long career as a teacher he taught numerous subjects outside of his chosen field. Dean Moreland was a forceful writer and contributed to the legal periodicals, but his special interest was in teaching and the personal contact with his students in and out of the class room. He believed that a teacher's first duty was to the student and that outside activities were secondary. In this he was well repaid by the honor and affection in which he was held by his students and by the influence his example and wise counsel had in preparing them for later life in their chosen profession. A high tribute was paid him as a man of character and ideals in a memorial in the Alumni Magazine of the University, where it is said:

“For many years it was one of his duties to explain to the freshman class the Honor System, and no one was better qualified to do so, as he was a living example of its principles.”