

Praise For The Judge

to remove from its ranks those who resort to violence.

Judge Peeples has done more, however, than assure that some convicted criminals don't return immediately to the streets. He's prodded officers of the court to move faster. He has expressed impatience with lawyers' pleas for continuances ("an inconvenience and a logistics problem"). He has promised to light fires under magistrates for failure or delinquency to conduct the preliminary hearings that are basic to prosecution of cases.

In his first weeks on the bench here, Judge Peeples has come through as one who takes to heart the essential role jurists have in the system of justice which proclaims the right — of defendants and victims of crimes — to fair and speedy trials.

In their presentments through the years, Charleston County grand juries have so habitually lauded judges and other court officials that significance of the commendations has worn thin. That's unfortunate, because if we have been reading rightly the reports from General Sessions Court, the current grand jurors' praise of Judge Rodney A. Peeples of Barnwell has been earned, and should be recognized in that light.

Presiding at a five-week term designed to help clear a massive backlog of cases, Judge Peeples has demonstrated why he has a reputation as a firm and stern jurist. The sentences he has imposed — life terms for lives taken, and 20 or more years in prison for armed robbery — reflect awareness of public concern over the high crime rate. They reflect, too, a full understanding of the cold fact that the surest way to protect society is

Feb. 1993

Mr. Robert Peeples Jr.

Retired area supervisor

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Mr. Robert Isadore Peeples Jr., 54, of 925 Linda Lane, died Sunday, Feb. 14, 1993, at Presbyterian Hospital after a brief illness.

Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. today in Lawtonville Cemetery, near Estill, S.C.

Mr. Peeples, a native of Estill, had retired as an area supervisor from Continental Forest Investments Inc. A graduate of the University of Florida Forestry School, he was a technician at Myers Park Hardware Store. He was past president of the Estill Jaycees, a Mason and member of Providence United Methodist Church.

Survivors include his wife, Rebecca Willis Peeples; a daughter, Elizabeth Rhodes Peeples, San Antonio, Texas; a stepdaughter, Jennifer Willis, Charlotte; a stepson, William Willis IV, Charlotte; and his mother, Margaret Zeigler Peeples, Estill.

Friends may call at the residence of his mother, 257 Johnston Ave. N.

Peeples-Rhoden Funeral Home, Hampton, S.C., is in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Will

Mr. Willie "J" Weed St., died 1993, at Anne Home, North Au

The funeral v day at Elim Ba the Rev. Char ing. Burial will Cemetery.

Survivors in win Harris, daughter, Ash gusta; and four

Friends may dence or at Home.

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