

Campbell Law Review

Volume 11
Issue 2 *Spring 1989*

Article 1

February 2012

Dedication: Professor Richard L. Braun

President Norman A. Wiggins

David R. Guin

Follow this and additional works at: <http://scholarship.law.campbell.edu/clr>

Recommended Citation

President Norman A. Wiggins and David R. Guin, *Dedication: Professor Richard L. Braun*, 11 CAMPBELL L. REV. 115 (1989).

This Dedication is brought to you for free and open access by Scholarly Repository @ Campbell University School of Law. It has been accepted for inclusion in Campbell Law Review by an authorized administrator of Scholarly Repository @ Campbell University School of Law.



RICHARD L. BRAUN

In honor of his being named Distinguished Professor of Law, the Editors and Staff of the Campbell Law Review dedicate this issue in tribute to Professor Richard L. Braun.

Campbell Law Review

Volume 11

Spring, 1989

Number 2

Dedication to Distinguished Professor of Law

RICHARD L. BRAUN

He is tall, stands erect and when walking, does so with the easy gait of a superbly conditioned athlete. The pace of his walk tells you that he knows where he is going. Always well dressed, he adds dignity to any occasion. In his face there is a combination of strength of character, kindness and friendliness which quickly puts one at ease. In the classroom he is a demanding teacher, but there you find a fine rapport and mutual respect between student and teacher. He and his students always seem to be engaged in a common search for knowledge of the law. He inspires his students to think for themselves and any difference of opinion is examined with respect. Thus, it is not surprising that this issue of the *Campbell Law Review* is dedicated to Richard L. (Dick) Braun, a Christian gentleman who typifies all the virtues this phrase implies. He has taught and practiced law in the "Grand Manner" and in so doing has advanced the cause of justice and brought dignity and respect to the judicial system.

Born in California, a graduate of Stanford University, having received, with honors, his Juris Doctor and Master of Law degrees from Georgetown University, he practiced law briefly. Wherever he has undertaken to serve, he has served faithfully, diligently and effectively—as a Marine Corps fighter pilot Ace of World War II and the Korean War, a legal officer of the U. S. Marines, as Professor of Law of Georgetown University Law Center and the Southwestern University Law School, Deputy Assistant Attorney General of the U. S. Department of Justice, Dean of the University of Detroit School of Law, and founding Dean of the University of Dayton Law School.

His Deanships at the University of Detroit School of Law from

1972 to 1974 and at the University of Dayton Law School from 1974 to 1980, fell during difficult times. A student of history will remember that in the late 1960's the city of Detroit was in a continuing state of turmoil. Detroit had been torn apart by racial strife and rioting. The city was still feeling the tremors of that strife. Dick was familiar with Detroit's problems having served as Director of Government Relations and Information for the Automobile Manufacturers' Association in the city and a member of the nation's first urban coalition. Beginning in 1972, he became chairman of the Judicial and Corrections Committee. These two committees had the responsibility of improving police-community relations and public safety and justice in the city of Detroit. The Committees helped to defuse an explosive situation and helped pave the way to making Detroit the model of a multi-racial city that it is today.

Relying primarily upon his native endowment, and guided, for the most part, only by the splendor of his intellect, Dick led in organizing a new law school at the University of Dayton. From 1974 to 1980, he brought together a full-time faculty of twenty, a student body of 450 and a law library of 150,000 volumes. As has been true in all of his endeavors, at Dayton, Dick forgot that life could be anything more than a venture in self-denial and unselfish toil. This has to account, in no small part, for the outstanding success the University of Dayton Law School has enjoyed since its founding.

In the light of his genius for self-imposed tasks and creative assignments, it is not surprising that Dick and his lovely wife, Libby, would decide to join the faculty of the Campbell Law School in 1980. The law school had graduated its first class in 1979. This gave him a unique opportunity of which, through his superlative personal and professional qualities, he took full advantage to make a real impact both upon the law school, and the judicial system and legal education.

Dick Braun is a great law teacher, and great teachers do something more than merely transmit a knowledge of the law. As he had done in every position of responsibility, he went about creating an atmosphere, a feeling, a respect and love for the finest traditions of the law. Just as he had emphasized minority recruitment at the University of Detroit, he insisted upon a strong policy of affirmative action and helped to draft a plan of desegregation for the city of Dayton while at the University of Dayton Law School, he immediately put his talents to work in North Carolina. He in-

roduced his students in his course in Criminal Law to the prison visitation and the police ride-along programs. As Reporter of the North Carolina Superior Court Judges' Pattern Jury Instructions Committee for criminal cases, he has had a substantial and positive impact on criminal justice. His involvement has required long hours and great dedication. In addition, Dick sensed a great need for those individuals who were battling a terminal illness. He launched a pilot hospice program involving third-year law students who provide legal assistance to indigent patients of hospices and their families.

Dick Braun is no ordinary man. His accomplishments are so great that it is difficult to relate them. It seems that almost from the beginning of his life he has had a sense of destiny written upon his brow. His professional stature, his self-evident integrity, his devotion to the law and his many contributions to his community, state and nation make him an inspiring example for all persons, especially prospective young lawyers.

On Monday, May 8, Dick will lay down the teaching mantle which he has worn so gracefully for so long. What then will this happy warrior pulsating with dynamic energy and indomitable will pursue as his next objective? Whatever it is and wherever it leads him, there is one thing for sure, those of us who continue will have a better insight into the meaning and purpose of life because Dick Braun labored here and so will others with whom he will work in the future.

Norman A. Wiggins
President of Campbell University and Professor of Law
Campbell University
Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law

Professor Richard L. Braun

He was 6'4" and weighed over 250 pounds. He grabbed the professor's arms, wrenched them behind his head, and forced the older man to his knees. He then searched the professor for any possible contraband and found a couple of plastic guns and knives. Not very many law students would treat their professor in such a rough manner, but then again not very many professors would volunteer to subject themselves to such abuse. But his goal was accomplished; the students in that Criminal Procedure class understood more than the black letter law of search and seizure. No student who witnessed the demonstration will forget the fact that the police officer making the stop is himself balanced between conflicting goals of self-preservation and the need to follow the letter of the law. Examples of the attempts of Professor Braun to drive a lesson home or to make a dry subject more palatable are legion. His dedication to the task at hand went above and beyond the call of duty. Quite simply, professors and men like Richard L. Braun, do not come along very often. It is with great pleasure and considerable sadness that the *Campbell Law Review* dedicates this issue to Professor Braun.

Professor Braun has a distinguished career of service to his country, his profession and to the students who have been fortunate enough to have their lives touched by this special man. He spent twenty years, both as a pilot and a lawyer, in the United States Marine Corps. He has been in private practice, served as the Director of Government Relations and Information for the Automobile Manufacturers Association, and served as a Deputy Assistant Attorney General in the Justice Department. Professor Braun's experience in legal education is equally impressive. Beginning with a professorship at Georgetown University, he has also taught at the University of Detroit, Southwestern University, the University of Dayton and finally chose Campbell University as the beneficiary of his talents and experience. In addition, Professor Braun was the Dean of the University of Detroit School of Law from 1972 through 1974. In 1974, he was chosen to be the founding Dean of the School of Law at the University of Dayton. From then until 1980 Professor Braun molded Dayton's law school into an outstanding institution that continues to enjoy an excellent reputa-

tion, both in Ohio and nationwide. After that task Professor Braun would have been justified to relax for a while and what better place than Campbell University in little Buies Creek. Instead, he has not rested during his tenure at Campbell. On the contrary, he has made his mark on the University and on the State of North Carolina. A recognized expert in the area of Wills and Trusts, Professor Braun taught that course and Evidence at Campbell until the need arose for someone to assume the Criminal Law education. Professor Braun stepped into the breach, teaching Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure and Advanced Criminal Procedure. His expertise was sought out by the N.C. Criminal Pattern Jury Instruction Committee and he has served with distinction, continually striving to make the jury instructions a useful tool for judges and juries while ensuring that they accurately reflect the law. Professor Braun has also coordinated an outstanding Law Related Education program at Campbell University, one that has been a benefit to the community and to the students who became involved. Since the 1984 summer issue Professor Braun has served as the *Law Review* faculty advisor. Under his watchful eye the *Campbell Law Review* has continued its progress toward becoming the finest such publication of its kind in the State. With all these activities Professor Braun still finds time to serve on national uniform laws committees, assist attorneys with cases, authors with publications, and students with any problem they may have. With his professional life, he has provided for all attorneys a shining example of service to the profession and to the community. With his caring personality and concern for the students he serves, he has won not only our respect but also a place in our hearts. Hence, the sadness with which this issue is dedicated to him—it signals an end to the time in which he will occupy his perch on the third floor, available on a minutes notice to explain the law, share a joke, or provide a sympathetic ear.

His concern for the students and their level of understanding is evident to anyone who ever made the trek to his third floor office after one of his lectures. Never complacent or self-satisfied, he questioned his own effectiveness and it is in that questioning that the listener becomes aware of the Professor's dedication to his students, his concern that the student not only know the law but also understand the real world application of it. Those students who have been privileged to be taught by Professor Braun have seen a man who enjoys his work and conducts it so that the learning will also be enjoyable for the student. The student sees a brilliant man

who is unaffected by his own gifts, one who is friendly, and quick to forgive a mistake, but dissatisfied with lack of effort. They may not see that part of Professor Braun that is the dedicated and loving husband and father; nor the part that is concerned with the world around him, a concern that has him seeking a new challenge, a worthy cause to which he may lend his considerable talents after he has left Campbell.

Those of us who have had the opportunity to know Professor Braun and to have been taught by him recognize him for the true gentleman that he is, and are deeply indebted to him for being a living example of the attorney who can balance his professional excellence with kindness, concern, and commitment. For all of this we thank him and with great pride we dedicate this issue of the *Campbell Law Review* to Richard L. Braun, Distinguished Professor of Law.

David R. Guin
Class of 1989
Campbell University
Norman Adrian Wiggins
School of Law