



Dean Donald Jenkins

J. Dean Carro

Donald M Jenkins, a great person, a wonderful teacher, and a combat officer, served as Dean at The University of Akron School of Law from 1981 through 1987. He graduated from the University of Akron School of Law in 1964. But before that he served as a captain in the United States Air Force piloting bombers during the Korean War. For his achievements he received the Distinguished Flying Cross. He learned much from that experience including the need to keep one's eyes on the target. That experience also taught him valuable lessons in leadership.

When I would go to him with a proposal, he would

question me as to potential problems with the proposal, solutions, and costs in time, personnel, and money. At the end of the interrogation, if he was content with the answers I gave, he would quickly reach his decision and say, "Go get 'em tiger."

He often analogized life's challenges to the lessons he had learned from combat in Korea. He was adored by his students for his down-to-earth teaching style and his availability to students at any time. He came to the law school faculty in 1971 and assumed the deanship in 1981. He provided much-needed stability and adherence to rules to a law school, its faculty, and the community in a time of rapid changes. He retired as a Major General in the United States Air Force Reserve, a further example of his remarkable leadership skills.