



Cornell University ILR School

ILR Memory Book Series

From time to time, on-line memory books are made available on the web site of Cornell University's ILR School as a way for past students, colleagues, and friends to post their recollections of faculty and distinguished staff members. The occasion for the memory book may be the person's passing, or it may mark their retirement from active service to the school.

This series collects the comments left by visitors to these memory books.

Milton R. Konvitz

March 12, 1908 - September 5, 2003

Milton Konvitz, a Cornell University faculty member and authority on constitutional and labor law, and civil and human rights, died Sept. 5 at the age of 95. Konvitz was a founding faculty member in the School of Industrial and Labor Relations from 1946 until his retirement in 1973. He was also a professor in Cornell's Law School.

Konvitz is perhaps best known for his American Ideals course, which he taught to more than 8,000 students over the course of his career, never giving the same lecture twice. "I saw the U.S. Constitution as it has been interpreted as a magnificent depository of our ideals, both individual and social," he said. His course exposed students to the great intellectual thinkers and philosophers throughout history whose writings had shaped those ideals. They included Sophocles, whose play *Antigone* is Cornell's New Student Reading Project this year. One student he influenced was U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Cornell Class of 1954, who considers him a mentor.



At Cornell Konvitz also was a founder of the university's Department of Near Eastern Studies and Program of Jewish Studies. "I felt it was essential for a college interested in the humanities not to leave out Hebrew language and literature," he said. "And the knowledge of Jewish history, which began 4,000 years ago and has contributed to civilization no less than Greek, Roman or English history, is important to today's students -Jewish and non-Jewish." He often hosted students at his Ithaca home and helped start the first Kosher dining option at Cornell, Young Israel House. In addition, for nearly 30 years he directed the Liberian Codification Project, which drew up the

official body of statutory laws that is still in force in the Republic of Liberia today, despite the current political upheaval there. Konvitz also edited the opinions of Liberia's Supreme Court and received the Grand Band of the Order of the Star of Africa, the highest award given to foreigners, as well as an honorary degree from the University of Liberia, one of seven honorary degrees he received in his lifetime.

Active as a scholar and writer until his death, he wrote books and articles on American constitutional law that won him wide recognition and were cited in U.S. Supreme Court opinions. Among his nine books is *Fundamental Liberties of a Free People: Religion, Speech, Press, Assembly*, which was republished earlier this year with an expanded introduction by him that is strongly critical of the Rehnquist Supreme Court. Other books include *A Century of Civil Rights* (1983) and *Judaism and Human Rights* (2nd ed. 2001). He also edited a dozen volumes, including two on American philosopher Ralph Waldo Emerson, whose thinking shaped his views. One Emersonian idea he absorbed was that readers give life to books, which Konvitz recast as follows: "It is in their hearing that students bring life to the words, the thoughts, the teacher."

Konvitz was born in Safed, Palestine (now Israel), in 1908, the son of a rabbi. He immigrated to the United States in 1915 and became a naturalized citizen in 1926. He received a bachelor's degree in 1929 and a law degree in 1930, both from New York University, and a Ph.D. in philosophy from Cornell in 1933. Before joining Cornell's faculty, he was one of three assistant general counsels to Thurgood Marshall at the NAACP Legal Defense Fund for three years.

He is survived by his wife, Mary, of Oakhurst, N.J.; a brother, Phillip, of Elberon, N.J.; a son and daughter-in-law, Josef and Isa, of Paris, France; and two grandsons, Eli and Ezra. Josef Konvitz, who grew up in Ithaca, is now an official at the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development.

— *Reprinted from an article by Linda Myers of the Cornell News Service, September 8, 2003.*

Visitors to the memory book for Milton Konvitz made the following comments between September 9, 2003 and September 10, 2004.

I was a student of Prof. Konvitz in the early 1970's, and was saddened to see the obituary notice in the NY Times yesterday. I remember him as a very impressive lecturer, and especially recall his thrilling commentary as the Pentagon Papers case was moving through the federal courts during our semester on constitutional rights - a great coincidence. I had been in touch with him a few times in recent years, and he retained a lively interest in new constitutional rights issues. I get a little thrill now and then when I see one of his books cited as an authority in a court decision or law review article, and I saw one such citation just a few weeks ago.

- *Arthur Leonard, New York City Sep 9 2003*

Milton greatly influenced my thinking about such important matters as religion, politics and relationships with others. He had a greater influence on me than any other teacher. I am tremendously indebted.

- *Roy Pritchard, Cheshire, CT 06410 Sep 9 2003*

Having arrived in the United States as a refugee from Czechoslovakia in 1949, I started my freshman year at ILR in September 1950, on a full scholarship. The “American Ideals” course, taught so masterfully by Prof. Konvitz, provided me with a marvelous opportunity to learn what America was all about.

- *Harry R. Kirsch, Auburndale, MA Sep 9 2003*

One of the most gifted profs I had at Cornell. We live here in Island Hts.,NJ not from Long Branch.

- *Ron Cassie '63, Island Heights, NJ Sep 9 2003*

I recall Professor Konvitz with a great deal of admiration, and I think of him often. In June, 1959, during a very personal and private conversation, Professor Konvitz demonstrated to me a definition of the concept of “fairness” that went well beyond anything that had occurred to me prior to that time. Since then, I have been driven to follow this concept, and this has profoundly influenced my own life and the life of many others.

- *Barry Weintrob, Brooklyn, NY Sep 9 2003*

Professor Konvitz was my teacher in the early 1960's I believe I first met him in September 1961 in the Quonset Hut, outside the office of the Dean. I later took every available course that I could and his influence on my academic and professional career was profound. Regretably, I probably never let him know, but others certainly can attest to it. I look across my office right now and see in the book case his “Fundamental Liberties of a Free People -- a “text book” that used in his Constitutional Rights course (the name is probably wrong) in 1962 and his “A Century of Civil Rights” which he published in 1961 and I used in a course in the Fall of 1964---What has happened since, could only have been accomplished in part oin his scholarship, mentoring and instruction. Thanks to the ILR Schools commitment to its alumni and the founding faculty, I recently (in 2001) recieved a personally inscribe copy of Professor Konvitz's recent “Nine American Jewish Thinkers” -- I will forever cherish it and Professor Konvitz's memory.

- *Charles R. Both, Washington DC Sep 9 2003*

Prof. Konvitz was one of my most memorable professors while at Cornell. Even in a large lecture hall, he could energize and captivate hundreds of students as if it were a one on one tutorial. Years after graduation, as an attorney in Rochester, I had the opportunity to select Prof. Konvitz, then retired, to hear a labor arbitration I was presenting. I still recall him arriving at the hearing room, fresh off a bus ride up from Ithaca, nattily dressed in a plaid tammy, scarf and bowtie and, as always, full of wisdom and insight. My thoughts at the time, and still-- “What an honor to be presenting a case in front of my distinguished former prof.” I lost the case and the employee was reinstated, much to my consternation. But after reading the award, his practical wisdom was evident-- in essence, his conclusion -- if THIS employee couldn't hold THIS job, she wouldn't be able to hold a job anywhere, and that would ultimately be a burden to all!

- *David R. Miller, Randolph, NJ Sep 9 2003*

I was Professor Konvitz's head teaching assistant for his fall and spring "American Ideals" course in 1971 and 1972. Each of his lectures had the craftsmanship of a jeweler. They were so good and so enlightening I felt guilty getting paid. This kind and gentle man had a generous heart that benefited his students and his teaching assistants.

- *Ed Potter, Washington, DC Sep 9 2003*

in our professional and personal lives, few people leave a mark. prof konvitz left deep ones. i was a student of his in 1971. he instilled a great love of the constitution. it was an honor to be in his lecture hall and listen to this yoda-like man recite emerson, jefferson, locke and the constitution. my condolences to his family

- *Eric Goldberg, Ossining NY Sep 9 2003*

I had the great good fortune of working for Prof. Konvitz in 1970 while a student in ILR. My major job task was clipping news items from papers and magazines on his mailing list, sorting them and filing them. While clearly not a highly intellectual endeavor, I was constantly impressed by the variety and breadth of the items which Prof. Konvitz wanted me to review on his behalf. His intellectual curiosity was astounding. To this day, one of the relatively few classes I recall with much clarity was his survey course on Fundamental Liberties. It was the single most intellectually stimulating course of my college career. Some years later, I had the great pleasure of hearing Professor Konvitz speak at my synagogue at an annual Law Day lecture, when he masterfully intertwined Jewish traditional legal analysis with modern American jurisprudence. He will be greatly missed.

- *Gary D. Simms, Chevy Chase MD Sep 9 2003*

The only course my husband of 40 years and I ever took together when we were both students at Cornell was Prof. Konvitz's course in American Ideals. His thoughtful presentations and challenging questions left a lasting mark on both of us. I am sure that we are better citizens and more open minded people today because of the way he changed our minds and thoughts. He will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

- *Lila Olson '63, Ithaca Sep 9 2003*

Professor Konvitz is as much a symbol of what Cornell had to offer as anything else I can think of. He was the best of the best. To remember him is sheer pleasure -to recall the faith he placed in our ability to reason and think and explore new areas of logic and process and law is to recall the best of times at Cornell with a smile. While our classes with him were huge - hundreds of people, there was never a group who sat more on the edge of their seats to digest every word of wisdom we heard. Over 25 years later I still have The Bill of Rights Reader - with all my notations in the margins and notes in the inside cover - on my bookshelf, and I often open it up with a smile and a feeling of great satisfaction. To have experienced Milton Konvitz was a privilege and a pleasure. He touched every one of us, in many ways, and his wisdom, grace and dignity will not be found easily again in this world. As Emerson so aptly tells

us, and as Professor Konvitz taught us, success is defined as the ability to make a difference, to have an impact to the better, on other lives. Who could have been a greater success than Professor Konvitz? He will be missed....but never forgotten.

- Don Zinn (BS 1976), Westchester County, NY Sep 9 2003

I knew nothing of the reputation of Prof. Konvitz when I started in the MILR program in Fall 1970 as a California hippieboy -- and quickly learned of his wisdom and communication skills when I was selected to be one of his teaching assistants for the Fundamental Liberties course. The ideas that he presented and the balance of perspectives that he encouraged has provided me with a great respect for people of all types and the institutions that attempt to make ours a better society. I was particularly impressed with the high quality students that were attracted to this course.

- Dave Goold, Sacramento, CA Sep 9 2003

Professor Konvitz was one of the most influential teachers in the ILR School during the 50s. His influence and impact on me greatly influenced my career and the decision making process utilized throughout the rest of my life. He will be sorely missed.

- Donald S. Goldman '56, Marina del Rey, CA Sep 9 2003

I had the privilege of being a student in Professor Konvitz's "American Ideals" course during his last year as a full-time faculty member. His last lecture was "standing-room only" in the large auditorium in the ILR building. (I think he drew a bigger crowd than Jimmy Hoffa and Jim Bounnton!) In his quiet way, Professor Konvitz conveyed his passionate belief in the Constitution and American democracy like no other speaker I have ever heard.

- Donald Spector, Montclair, NJ Sep 9 2003

Milton Konvitz was a seminal figure in my intellectual development. His intellectual curiosity and sense of justice drove me to think beyond what I thought was possible of myself. I took two courses from Professor Konvitz in the early to mid 70's and I remember the entire class gave him a standing ovation at the end of both classes. Walter LaFever is the only other professor I remember giving a standing ovation to and I put the two of them on the same pedestal as the two finest professors I ever had. While a small man in stature, he was a giant in the classroom. I will never forget him.

- Stuart Binstock, Chevy Chase, MD Sep 9 2003

It is sad to see the ranks of the ILR old staff shrink. I remember Milton Konvitz as the reason for my coming to ILR in 1949. He interviewed me and expedited my admission. It is a long time ago but vividly remembered.

- Fred Gelberg, Teaneck, NJ Sep 9 2003

I had the good fortune of taking two of Professor Konvitz's courses in one semester in my Sophomore year. He was retiring and he was offering his courses for the last time. I remember sitting in his class spell-bound and for the first time actually being forced to think. Throughout HS and my freshman year

I had learned to memorize what the teachers wanted to hear and had gotten good grades as a result. Dr. Konvitz made me think, really think, and to develop ideas for myself. This is a gift that I carry with me today. He is one of those truly great teachers who really made a difference in my life. I am only sorry that there were not more Cornellians who had the opportunity to learn at the feet of this great man.
Brian Dunn ILR '77, MBA '81

- *Brian D. Dunn, New Rochelle, NY Sep 9 2003*

Professor Konvitz's two- semester course, American Ideals, was a highlight of my academic course load in ILR and at Cornell. The Constitutional Law concentration made my law school Con. Law course a relative "gut" because of the preparation I'd received. The St. James Bible component of the two-term course and his concept of "we're all masters of our own ship" has been one of my guiding principles in life. He touched my life, profoundly, and I am deeply saddened by his passing. Society-and Cornell-are poorer for his loss.

- *Andrew Howard, Sherman Oaks, CA Sep 9 2003*

Sincerest condolences - he was a fine man and a wonderful professor. Daughter of Arthur Konvitz, Sister of Jeff Konvits.

- *Cheryl Lippman, Boca Raton, FL Sep 10 2003*

the news of Milton Konvitz's death brought back many memories of my senior year at Cornell. His course on American Ideals had a great influence on me, and seemed to help me refine my own beliefs about what it means to be an American. The tide of my life has taken me a long way from ILR. I have a Ph. D. in Human Development and Family Studies now, and am on the faculty of Penn State University's Altoona College. But I know that each term, as I explain to students that who they are, what they believe, and how they have developed is different because they are Americans, that I am drawing on my memories of Milton Konvitz. I join other ILR Alumni in mourning his passing, and hope we can all honor him by remembering his teaching, and using it in our lives. Margaret Benson

- *Margaret Benson, State College, PA Sep 10 2003*

Milton Konvitz was the most inspiring professor I had at Cornell. It is grand that he had such a long and fruitful life. Some of his lectures still resonate when I read the Times. Thank you Milton and congratulations and sympathy to his family.

- *Barbara Loreto Peltz '55, Sep 10 2003*

Professor Konvitz had a profound influence on my life. His American Ideals Course awakened my interest in so many aspects of our lives and our government. As an elected representative to a County Legislature in New York and later the Connecticut State Legislator, I tried to live up to the important values I learned in Professor Konvitz' class. Claire Sauer ILR'51

- *Claire Sauer '51, Lyme, CT Sep 10 2003*

He was one of my teachers who had a profound effect upon me. I only had one required class with him, but my memories of this are as clear as yesterday and my respect for his intellectual power as strong today as it was then.

- Myron Roomkin, Sep 10 2003

Condolences to professor Konvitz' family. He was a great scholar and visionary. Thank you for sharing him with us.

- dve '62, Cincinnati Sep 10 2003

Who will replace Professor Konvitz? I first met him as a child, owing to his friendship with my father, Professor Selig Adler of Buffalo. Much later I came to know a bit about his range of learning and human qualities. A few years ago Dr Konvitz heard that our son, then a Cornell ILL student, had been named a Truman Fellow. Typically, a warm letter to his friend's grandson followed. May his memory always be for a blessing.

- Joseph G Adler, Albany, NY Sep 10 2003

A larger than life person and personality whose ideals and ideas are indelibly stamped into my mind. His lectures and style made me really think about and examine what would become core values in my life - these have stayed with me throughout my career. Condolences to his family - his legacy will be the memories that all of us have and cherish.

- Arte Nathan '72, Las Vegas, NV Sep 10 2003

Professor Konvitz symbolized the very best in education that a society can offer its youth. As young as I was in those introductory classes, I somehow knew that the ideas presented there, would serve me well throughout my life, and they have. I also sat in on his very last lecture and still remember being profoundly moved by the sense of loss, the universal high regard he was held in, and the ending of a great era of teaching. I regret that my daughter, now a sophomore at ILR, will not have the opportunity to learn from this gifted and caring man. He showed us all, by example, how wonderful a lifetime of teaching and service can be. My condolences to his family on your great loss.

- Debra Hertz '76, Northampton, MA Sep 11 2003

When I reflect upon my years at Cornell, I can think of no other professor whose lectures touched me like those of Professor Konvitz. I can't begin to imagine how he felt as he would look out each week and face an auditorium filled with young students ever so eager to absorb each and every word from the brilliant and humble scholar. His passion for his work was so evident and was always imparted to his listeners as he spoke with a twinkle in his eye. I regret that both my children, one a senior and the other a recent alumnus did not have the opportunity to experience his inspirational class. Professor Konvitz was a legend whose legacy will endure throughout the ages. My deepest sympathy to his family.

- Mitchell J, Cohen, ILR '76, Syosset, NY Sep 11 2003

He made us think. Part of our youth goes with him.

- Louise Passerman Rosenfeld and Gabriel Rosenfeld, Chappaqua, NY Sep 12 2003

Milton Konvitz possessed the magic to inspire, to excite one's intellect, to challenge a young mind to aspire to the highest ideals of American democracy. He wove the essence of our Bill of Rights with the ideals of our great philosophers. He made our Constitution live! As I look back over the years, it was Professor Konvitz and his seminal course in American Ideals that I remember with reverence. He inspired my lifelong interest in philosophy and Constitutional law, and I expect his teachings are an integral part of the mind, heart and soul of the thousands of students who listened so intently to him. Thank you Professor Konvitz. May you Rest in Peace.

- Adrienne Steinman Lustig, ILR '57, Southbury, CT Sep 13 2003

Professor Milton Konvitz was the best! A brilliant man, yet humble and caring. His Labor Law course was a great foundation for ILR. And, his course in American Ideals was a great foundation for life. It had great demand across the campus with non-ILRers, and traced the origins of our political and social ideals and standards. He was a great teacher who would also take the students' side if the Administration became unfairly directive. It was a rare privilege to be under his spell.

- William E. Phillips, ILR '51, Old Saybrook, CT Sep 13 2003

Prof. Konvitz was special to all the students. When I was a senior in ILR I was considering applying to law school. Prof. Konvitz urged me to apply to Harvard and offered to send a recommendation. I ended up taking another career path, but I was deeply touched by his faith in my academic abilities and his support. Several years ago Harold Levy hosted a luncheon in Professor Konvitz's honor which I was fortunate to be able to attend. Prof. Konvitz remembered me! He had a gift for students, making us all feel special. Am I correct in recalling that Prof. Konvitz was the author of the law codes of Liberia? Marion Janel Zinman, ILR '62, Tarrytown, NY

- Marion Janel Zinman, Tarrytown, NY Sep 15 2003

Professor Konvitz was an intellectual giant with a touch of gentle rascal. He lives on in us blessed by his teaching.

- Ernie Berger, ILR 65, Fairhope, Alabama Sep 15 2003

“...A GIANT OF A MAN WHO WALKED THE EARTH SOFTLY...”

- Richard F. Drazin, Belmar, NJ 07719 Sep 17 2003

Professor Konvitz was one of the best, if not, the best instructors I have ever had. He was a small munchkin in a giant lecture room who quietly earned the respect and attention of the large class. He was the one who sparked my interest in the law. He challenged us to understand our legal history. He had a tremendous influence on my choice of careers. He will be greatly missed and I'm sorry that other students will not have the unique opportunity to learn from a master.

- Steve Benenati, ILR '75, Norwich, NY Sep 19 2003

I'll never forget my first impression of Professor Konvitz. It was when he arrived at Cornell, and I was one of two students who volunteered to help him unpack. It was a cold wintry day, and along with my classmate, Eugene Hayman, I must have unloaded nearly 50 cartons of books. Midway through, we were both working in our shirtsleeves, oblivious to the chilly air. My impression of the man's intellect and breadth of knowledge, based at first by just seeing that vast personal home library, was later confirmed as I attended his lectures. In all my years I have encountered very few giants such as Professor Konvitz. His cherished ideals were rooted in deep religious convictions; and he stands out in the virtual pantheon of those who have influenced and guided me over all these years. He will be sorely missed by all who knew him, and I offer my condolences to his family and the I&LR community. Richard Marshall, ILR '48 20 Sep 2003

- Richard Marshall, El Paso, Texas Sep 20 2003

My memory of Milton Konvitz is that of an inspiring professor whose lecture hall was always filled to capacity with students enthralled with his wisdom and inspiration. I remember walking, in all kinds of weather, from Balch to the opposite end of campus, never wanting to miss even one of his wonderful classes. I only regret that my daughter, Amy, ILR'81, and my son, Eric, Ag'83, did not have the opportunity to experience Dr. Konvitz and his course in "American Ideals". He is truly a Cornell legend! (Sharon Lee Babat ILR'56)

- Sharon Lee Babat, Boynton Beach, Florida Sep 23 2003

It was my unexpected good fortune to be assigned to Milton Konvitz's American Ideals course as a teaching assistant when I enrolled at ILR as a graduate student in late summer of 1951. Duties were shared with Dick Lyon. I was seated outside of his office along with his secretary, a ringside seat to see him "offstage", with office help and with distinguished visitors. Always a gentleman and gentle of manner, he was a delight to work for. Of course, I learned a great deal from his course, and equally from him as a caring human being, devoted to his family, to his religion, and to his concept of a democratic society, conscious of the rights of the minority. The lecture hall was always filled. Students who were not enrolled attended as well. He often opened his home to students, and made everyone welcome. I remember him as an intellectual powerhouse, and a caring gentle man. His memory will abide with me, as well as his ideals for a democratic, pluralistic society.

- Arnold W. Bradburd, Abington, Pennsylvania Sep 25 2003

Formally, I was a - very, very junior! - colleague of Milton Konvitz from the mid-fifties until we moved to Chapel Hill to take up a position there. But I was in a field too distant from his, too junior, and too preoccupied with work in my own discipline, to know much more about Milton Konvitz than that his "American Ideals" course was the most revered on the campus. It was only within the last ten or fifteen years, when we took care to meet when both families were down in Sarasota in early January that I began to appreciate him for all that those who knew him revered in him: the breadth and depth of his knowledge, all linked to his various commitments: the principles of the American Constitution and of Judaism and his ability and desire to see their similarities; his respect for beauty as shown by his

knowledge of the world's literature; his commitment to truth and logic and hence his mastery of the great philosophers from the Greeks onwards; and his specific desire to see justice done in the case of the struggle for Civil Rights. To me, he has no equal.

- *Henry A. Landsberger, Chapel Hill N.C. Sep 28 2003*

How much greater my life has been because I was able to be one of Professor Konvitz's students. His American Ideals courses allowed me to see so clearly whom we are, where we had been and where we could travel. Countless times I have said to myself, "If I had but a couple of blue books and only 50 minutes, what would be my conclusion regarding a particular question?" His wonderful personality and ability to communicate American Ideals created an inspiration to think, learn and totally enjoy the process like nothing I experienced prior or since. Dr. Konvitz, we were so blessed to have had you in our lives. Jack Bilson ILR '70

- *Jack Bilson, Salisbury, N.C. Sep 30 2003*

Milton Konvitz was my uncle, and I loved him very much. He will have a special memory in my heart forever, and i will miss him very much.

- *Sofia Konvitz, Wayside NJ Oct 1 2003*

I am so proud and honored to be able to say that Milton Konvitz was my uncle. I was always very aware of of his intellect and his incredible life accomplishments. He was the scholar, teacher, mentor, and friend to so many yet he was so much more. He was a very important part of my family. A husband, a father, brother, grandfather, and uncle. A wonderful family man that will be missed so much, especially now during the holidays. Uncle Milton was very important in the Jewish community and in our own Jewish family and I will always be looking for him at our holiday table. I believe that it was his soul that touched me the most. I will miss his warm soft hands gently holding my face as he placed two delicate kisses on each cheek. Most of all I will never forget his eyes that were all so knowing but never non-judgemental! I love you and miss you Uncle Milton and you will never be forgotten!

- *Sabrina Konvitz, Wayside, NJ Oct 6 2003*

I took two of Dr. Konvitz classes in 1975-76 so I was in his class at 11:15 every day - five days a week. It was one of the great learning experiences of my life moving from Constitutional law to Philosophy and back again. He taught us the fundamentals of western thought and showed us the thinking behind the American Constitution, showed us the development of Court decisions down through series of minority opinions promising that school vouchers would eventually become legal. Perhaps the most memorable day was his announcement he was changing his planned lecture the day Ford pardoned Nixon. He explained he had been thinking about the problem for a long time: an out-of-office President who had won reelection by the greatest majority to date and a sitting, unelected President and the possible threat to the country in the event of a crisis. He explained that one could not be pardoned unless one had committed a legal offense or crime - a pardon was in fact, a conviction, making it impossible for the out-of-office President to legally claim the office again. I spent 24 years in national public policy and

his teaching and the thinking Dr. Konvitz made us develop served me well over and over again. He was a great thinker, teacher and model. The opportunity to know him was one of the great opportunities Cornell provided. He is missed already and will always be. Madeleine Hemmings ILR '77

- Madeleine Hemmings, Newark, NY Nov 17 2003

Professor Konvitz had both a tremendous intellect and intense passion for learning and for teaching. His courses are unforgettable; they elevated my Cornell education to a much higher intellectual plane and were tremendously enriching.

- Nick D'Ambrosio, Guilderland, NY Nov 17 2003

Mr. Konvitz was my best friend's uncle. I never met him, but i heard so much about him and his wonderful accomplishments. I'm sure he will be terribly missed.

- Nicole K., Marlboro, NJ Jun 4 2004

Attending Cornell was a very enriching experience for me. One of my joys was Professor Konvitz's course, which I look back upon with fond memories.

- John J B Miller, Kerrville, Texas Sep 10 2004