

THANK YOU, PROFESSOR GRESSMAN

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With great pride and deep appreciation, the Seton Hall Constitutional Law Journal dedicates Volume 4, Book 2 to Professor Eugene Gressman. On behalf of the entire *Journal*, we wish the Professor and his wife, Nan Gressman, the very best as they return to North Carolina.

Professor Gressman embodies all the characteristics of a respected professor. First, his thorough command of the subject matter is obvious to all who know him, or know his treatises. In class, his soft-spoken nature was one that belied the Professor's awesome experience and knowledge of the Supreme Court and constitutional law. As Professors Carmella and Baker have suggested, time in Professor Gressman's classes could have been spent passively listening to the ideas of a person who had spent a lifetime studying the Constitution. However, the Professor's classes were student-oriented — he challenged us to learn from one another through a perfect balance of lecture, class discussion, and organized debate. He often began class by provoking students to discuss and debate the prior night's reading assignment. In so doing, the Professor taught us to use case law in our effort to reveal the history and logic undergirding the Constitution, a skill which now proves useful in ascertaining future developments in our nation's constitutional story. Second, the Professor's ability to share his life experiences as a practitioner helped students to bridge the gap between academia and reality. Who better to teach Supreme Court practice than one who has written a treatise on the topic and who has argued before the United States Supreme Court more than any private attorney this century? During class, he shared stories — often humorous stories — of his experiences as a clerk to Justice Murphy, his relationships with past and present Justices, and his arguments before the Court.

Professor Gressman's love for teaching was exemplified in his willingness to help students in and out of the classroom. He was available one summer lunch hour at school when one *Journal* member, who was working at a firm as a summer associate, called him for help on an assignment. Professor located the materials he had been working on for his revised edition of his treatise on Federal Jurisdiction and more than pointed the student in the right direction.

Aside from having instructed many of the *Journal's* members in his Constitutional Law, Supreme Court Practice, or Federal Jurisdiction classes,

Professor Gressman has been an invaluable well of ideas, information, and encouragement to our members seeking guidance in writing and preparing articles for publication. Most notably, Professor Gressman provided invaluable guidance for *Senate Impeachment Trials — To Review or Not to Review, What Would Marshall Do?*

Moreover, Professor Gressman bestowed this generosity without bias to anyone who sought his advice or his company. After class, the Professor often lunched with students; his door was always open to discuss issues of constitutional import raised in his classes, other classes, or in the media. He was never too busy to talk with (and not *to*) students, nor did he tire of being around the students, as evidenced by the Washington, D.C. trips he chaperoned each year.

All of these qualities were coated with the Professor's pleasant disposition. His soft-spoken nature and his genuine smile made him among the most loved teachers at Seton Hall. Thus, with heavy hearts, the Seton Hall community bids farewell to Professor Gressman. He will always be considered a friend of the *Journal* and a mentor to the members who he guided. On behalf of the student body, the members of the *Journal* hope that the Professor will again grace our school. Until that time arrives, however, goodbye, and thank you, Professor Gressman.