

RAMSEY COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION



Memorials

Friday, April 24, 2009

Hamline University Sundin Music Hall
1531 Hewitt Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota

Two o'clock

*"What we have done for ourselves alone dies with us;
what we have done for others
and the world remains and is immortal."*

-Albert Pike

IN MEMORY OF

Wesley Anderson

Brian Bates

William Collins

Hon. A. James Dickinson

Emmett Dowdal

William E. Falvey

Joseph M. Finley

Craig Gagnon

Dan Hardy

Dr. Michael Johnson

R. Donald Kelly

George Rapaich

Peter Taylor

The traditional greeting by the Chief Judge, the names of other judges present, the recognition of the President of the Ramsey County Bar Association and the introduction of the Chair of the Memorial Committee were omitted from the pamphlet of the memorial proceedings for 2009.

Wesley Anderson

July 11, 1911 - March 4, 2008

Wesley A. Anderson always considered himself a very lucky man. He was born on 7/11/11 at 11 Como Avenue in St. Paul. He passed away on March 4, 2008, within a mile of where he was born. He is survived by his wife, Virginia, of 66 years, children Michael, Mary (Helmut) Maier, Kathleen Delaney and grandchildren Maren and Michael Maier and Patrick and Brian Delaney. He was a man of St. Paul, through and through; the son of Swedish immigrants.

Wes graduated from Mechanic Arts High School in 1929 and played in the Minnesota State Basketball Tournament on the Mechanic Arts championship team. He was awarded an athletic and academic scholarship to attend Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota, graduating in 1933 with a B.A. in economics. From 1934-38, he was employed by the Ramsey County Welfare Board, handling cases in rural Ramsey County. After scoring the top score on a competitive hiring exam at the Ramsey County Old Age Assistance Department of the County Board in 1938, he was hired as a supervisor. During this time, he attended night school at the St. Paul College of Law (now William Mitchell College of Law). In 1941, while in law school, he was appointed Director of the Ramsey County Old Age Assistance Department of the County Board. After graduating from law school, where he was a member of Delta Theta Phi law fraternity, he was admitted to the Minnesota Bar Association in 1942.

In 1942 Wes married Virginia, right before his induction into the army. The day before his enlistment, he was offered employment as a Special Agent of the F.B.I., leading to his release by the draft board. After training with the F.B.I. in Washington D.C., he and Virginia were stationed in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Cleveland, Ohio, Canton, Ohio, where son, Michael was born, and Chicago, Illinois, where daughter, Mary, was born. During his time in Chicago, he worked on the Alger Hiss case, as well as other communist espionage cases. In 1951, he was promoted to Resident Agent of the F.B.I. and transferred to St. Paul, where his daughter, Kathleen, was born.

In 1961, Wes was appointed Supervisory Senior Resident Agent in Charge of the St. Paul F.B.I., and retired from the F.B.I. in 1973, after thirty one years of service. During his time in the F.B.I., he worked on countless interesting cases, often putting his life on the line for the citizens of Minnesota. He was a well-known and respected figure in town and the civic leaders of St. Paul honored him with a city of St. Paul retirement party. After retirement from the F.B.I., Wes entered the practice of law with the law firm of Dudley, Smith and Belisle. During this time, he was admitted to practice law before the Supreme Court of the United States and served as chief fundraiser for the Isanti County Sheriff's Boy's Ranch.

Wes eventually opened his own law practice in St. Paul. At the same time, he also worked as a legal consultant to the St. Paul Companies and other Twin Cities organizations and served as Chairman of the Board of a St. Paul company. He also helped countless people during his lifetime without asking anything in return. He finally retired in 1997, but would have preferred to keep working. He loved St. Paul and missed his direct involvement in the community.

His legacy is best summed up by the reflections of his grandchildren: "To me, our grandfather was an enigmatic figure in three piece suits and fedora hats, a man of

. . . WESLEY ANDERSON cont'd

mystery as he talked about gangsters and criminals, senators and celebrities. What I didn't know then, was that in the midst of my adventures through Grandpa's life, I unearthed some common themes that proved more powerful than any story he ever could have told. What has left a deep impression on me is his sense of service and innate leadership. Whether he was rounding up criminals or fundraising with prominent businessmen, his words always revealed a strong sense of respect and dignity for everyone he met. His strength of character colored every chapter in his life, providing a sturdy compass in his unending quest for justice. And his way with people was reflected in everybody's admiration of him. Looking back, it is clear that his stories stood for something greater, little life lessons about the importance of honesty, integrity, principle, and always standing on the side of right. Through the snippets of stories told here and there, I pieced together an image of a man I came to admire, and most of all, deeply respect. He was a role model, whose wisdom, strength, and character have been a welcome accompaniment throughout my life, as I try to emulate the example he set. We are truly lucky and deeply blessed, to have known such a man."

"I remember Grandpa today in connection with two of his hallmarks, which both, I think, reflect the way he connected with people: his handshake and his laugh. His handshake symbolized the forthrightness with which he dealt with people and expected to be dealt with in return. It also conveyed honesty, confidence, and warmth. Even in his final illness, as the rest of his body weakened, Grandpa could still summon all his physical energy in his handshake. We will remember Wes as a man who, throughout his life, was as sincere as they come and a man who valued relationships with people, whether they were family or friends. There's no question Grandpa was an earnest man, with a hearty laugh and sense of humor, that man with a firm grip on my hand and on his life."

"Grandpa remained a hero as a man of few words, but of principle."

"Our Grandfather was a role model to us all. Through his actions and stories about his life he taught us all how to be an honestly good person all the while being humble and never bragging about his accomplishments. I pride myself on being related to him, and try to emulate his personality as best as I can. He was a hard-working and straight-forward man that still retained a strong love for his family, friends, and community. Even in his final days, his compassion and concern for others over himself was evident."

Wesley travelled and lived in many different locations with Virginia. He enjoyed his family and friends immensely, from United States Vice Presidents, and a Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court to criminals he put in jail, and everyone in between. He loved St. Paul and served the community with pride and joy, and always found time for his favorite pastimes, such as golf, cross-country skiing and tomato gardening. He led a fascinating, fruitful and full life. We are honored to call him husband, father, grandfather, relative, colleague, and friend.

Respectfully submitted by, Family of Wesley A. Anderson with contributions by Retired United States Bankruptcy Court Judge John J. Connelly

Brian Bates

July 14, 1947 - June 12, 2008

Brian was a native of St. Paul and graduated with a marketing degree from the University of Notre Dame. He spent his early business career in San Francisco before returning to St. Paul. He returned to school to receive his degree from Hamline University Law School in 1991 and began specializing in the area of environmental issues. Brian took particular aim at tobacco advertising to young people and billboards in St. Paul. Working with the anti-billboard group, Scenic Minnesota, he was instrumental in the city wide ban on new billboards in 2000 and limiting the proliferation of billboards in St. Paul and other cities. He called them "litter on a stick".

Brian was also a passionate advocate for the Mississippi River, arguing that locks and dams on the upper river should be removed. He maintained that restoring St. Anthony Falls and seven downstream miles of white water rapids to a more natural state would be a better option. Brian was active on the Macalester Groveland Community Council, Scenic Minnesota, Scenic St. Paul, Clean Air MN, the Sierra Club, the DFL and other political and environmental endeavors. Brian's work on environmental issues led him to become well known in the St. Paul area.

Brian was also an avid runner who took part in the annual St. Paul Get in Gear Race and Grandma's 10K in Duluth. After his death, his family and friends sponsored a memorial bench along his running path on the Mississippi River in his honor. Brian once remarked upon seeing such a bench, that he would not mind being remembered that way. Of course he had no idea that would occur so soon. The bench is located in a beautiful setting on East River Road, just across from Temple of Aaron synagogue.

He played tennis regularly and played an active role in the life of his nieces. After being a renter for most of his adult life, one year before he died he finally enjoyed his first foray into home ownership and the obligatory maintenance. Brian was a true friend and colleague. We commiserated and shared ideas, strategy and most importantly tried to assure each other we were in compliance with a myriad of court rules and deadlines. Speaking of deadlines, it was a running but true joke that Brian would not complete any task more than a few hours before it was due. This was true in law school and in his practice and yet, he always researched and wrote brilliantly, winning "best brief" in our first year law school class, despite or perhaps *because* he waited until the last minute.

Brian is survived by his many good friends and colleagues, his brother, Bob and sister-in-law Jeanne of Kansas City, his sister, Barbara, of St. Paul, 5 nieces, 2 great nephews and 1 great niece.

Brian was diagnosed with cancer just a few months before he died. I will miss

...BRIAN BATES cont'd

my good friend and confidant as will the City of St. Paul and State of Minnesota where I always believed he would continue making his mark through his activism and politics.

In closing, the language which appears on the plaque at Brian's memorial bench along the Mississippi River sums up his accomplishments and spirit as follows:

Brian lived his values, fought for those without a voice, and worked tirelessly to make this city cleaner and more sustainable.

Respectfully submitted by, Marna Wolf Orren

William J. Collins

June 15, 1951 - November 25, 2008

William J. Collins, "Bill," passed away November 25, 2008. He was 57 years old. He valiantly fought colorectal cancer for 7½ years. He was preceded in death by father David P. Collins. His survivors include his spouse Michele; son Rory; mother Mary (McNellis) Collins; brother David; sisters Patricia (Leo) Schluender, Rosemary (Jim) Bailey, Susan (Sam) Collins as well as aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

Bill grew up in DeGraff, Minnesota, and graduated from Benson High School. He completed his undergraduate work at St. John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota, and received his law degree from William Mitchell Law School.

He worked at the Ramsey County Attorney's Office for a short time before he took an estate planning job with the Farm Credit System in May 1980. He was appointed as General Counsel of the Farm Credit Bank of St. Paul in November 1986 and as AgriBank's General Counsel in 1992 when the Farm Credit Banks of St. Louis and St. Paul merged. He became AgriBank's CEO in June of 1999, and served in that capacity until his retirement in June of 2006.

As CEO, Bill was responsible for the overall strategic direction and business operations of AgriBank District Farm Credit Bank, providing wholesale funding and business services to the District's 18 member associations. Among other things, he implemented a business model redesign, negotiated bank mergers, and served on various committees and boards for the Farm Credit System.

Bill possessed a gentlemanly manner and a wisdom which exceeded his age and experience. He had a phenomenal gift for making you feel that you were the most important person in the world as he was speaking to you. Those who asked him for management advice would get simple, sound counsel on each question. A colleague at AgriBank said Bill was "like an external conscience. You often knew the right answer, but did not like it. Bill would give you the right answer, and you knew you would just have to learn to like it."

Bill was quick to return a jab. One afternoon he returned from a meeting where he had been given a box of chocolates filled with liquor. He

. . . WILLIAM J. COLLINS cont'd

asked his assistant to pass them out to the staff in the Legal Department. When he stopped in the office of one of the lawyers later that day to see what she was working on, she told him she was researching AgriBank's dram shop liability for distributing booze to the staff. He retorted with, "Well, you'd better sober up fast and get that opinion written!"

Bill's voice was always one of kindness and gentleness. In his most difficult time, his positive attitude sustained not only him, but all those around him. Anyone was lucky to have Bill touch their lives. His leadership was smart and strong; his friendship was loyal and fun. You always wanted Bill on your team!

Bill retired in June 2006 to focus on fighting his cancer, but he remained active in the Farm Credit System and stayed in touch with his AgriBank colleagues. He served as a director on the board of AgStar Financial Services and attended his last board meeting only a few weeks before he passed away. He would often call some of his former colleagues in the middle of a workday to chat. Once he was tired (or maybe ready to call the next person on his list), he would say, "Well, you're out of control. It's time for you to get back to work and make some money (for the bank)."

Bill was a brilliant lawyer, a thoughtful friend, an inspirational leader, and a great team builder. Despite our many memories, we will miss him very much.

Respectfully submitted by the AgriBank Legal Department.

The Honorable A. James Dickinson

July 7, 1940 - November 21, 2008

A. James Dickinson, or "Jim," as he was known to everyone, was born July 7, 1940 and lived in St. Paul his entire life with the exception of his undergraduate years at Union College in Schenectady, NY, from which he graduated in 1962. Prior to that he attended St. Paul Academy, where he was captain of the golf team. He graduated from the University of Minnesota Law School in 1965 and then clerked at the Minnesota Supreme Court for a year for Associate Justice Martin Nelson. He practiced at the Stringer & Rohleder law firm from 1966 to 1997, where he was a civil trial attorney, often representing railroads and insurance companies. He also had a varied general practice. He served terms on the Board of Governors of the Minnesota State Bar Association, the Ramsey County Bar Association and the Ramsey County Bar Foundation Board. He was a member of the National Association of Railroad Trial Counsel and the Minnesota Defense Lawyers Association.

Gov. Arne Carlson appointed him to the Second Judicial District bench on April 17, 1997. The two were longtime friends and competitors on the squash court. After his death Carlson said, "He had the perfect temperament – always immensely fair, a good listener, paid attention to what other people said." Jim took an active role on the bench. He served on numerous committees, and was instrumental in the implementation of electronic recording of court proceedings in Ramsey County. He was respected and well-liked by his colleagues on the bench and the court staff. His counsel and advice were generously given...when requested.

His fellow judges, the litigants, and attorneys who appeared before him knew him to be hard-working, compassionate and fair. He was not only learned in the law, he was at all times dignified and kind. He retired from the bench on January 1, 2008.

Being a judge handling criminal cases exposed Jim to a section of society not often encountered in the SPA community or insurance defense practice. He loved telling stories about his cases - often times with an expression of shock and disbelief. One of his favorite stories involved his presiding over a paternity case. After an extensive hearing, and due consideration, Jim ruled the defendant was in fact the father of the child. After rendering his decision, the courtroom cleared except for the newly adjudicated dad. Judge Dickinson told the defendant he would have to leave because there was another paternity case scheduled. The man replied, "I know. They're claiming I'm the father in that one, too!" Jim referred to that case as his double-header. Then, out would come...the laugh! The machine gun laugh that would grow and infect all in his presence so that everyone was joining in the laughter!

Jim's real passion, however, was not the law or judgeship. It was his family and

... HON. A. JAMES DICKINSON cont'd

his time at Madeline Island. He was his most content when he was there with family and friends. There he could spend time with his family, read, explore the island and study its history. His friend, Bill Beadie, has said his love of family and time on Madeline revealed the core of the man. He took everyone at face value and respected all regardless of social or economic status. He was fiercely loyal and loved his family more than words can express.

Jim faced his impending death from pancreatic cancer with the same grace and character that he exhibited throughout his life. He said shortly before his death, "I have had a good life. I have no regrets." As Bill Beadie said, "What a good and decent life he did live."

He is survived by his wife of 43 years, Alice, and his children James Dickinson Jr., Susan Dickinson, Mary Dickinson McDonald, Charles Dickinson and three grandchildren.

Jim's family and his many friends will miss him. May he rest in peace.

Respectfully submitted by, Michael DeCourcy, Paulette Flynn, Charles Flinn and William Beadie

Emmett Dowdal

September 18, 1935 - February 23, 2008

Standing here in front of all of you, I am afraid I won't honor Dad the way I should, the way he would want to be honored and the way he deserves to be remembered. How can I possibly convey to you what it was like to have the privilege of being one of three children to call him my Dad.

Dad was 100 percent Irish – which explains a couple of things. First, his love of people. Second, he could hardly go an hour without laughing, either at his own jokes or someone else's, but more likely his own jokes. Finally, he was certainly blessed with the gift of gab – though he would often be heard to say "so and so stopped in the office and just would talk your arm right off—I couldn't get away", and you know for sure that poor fella went home and told his wife the same thing.

It was Dad's ability to persuade that got him into law school in the first place. The night before the LSAT Dad was in Rochester busily impressing his date at that time – who he would marry in 1962, my Mom, Bobbee Dowdal — with all sorts of silly conversations and antics that kept the two of them laughing for hours, no doubt. Driving home to St. Paul the morning of the LSAT – he felt confident in one thing — he had not over prepared for the exam. When the inevitable rejection from William Mitchell arrived, faced with the proposition of being a door-to-door Schaeffer pen salesman for the rest of his life, Dad marched himself into the Dean's office and made his case – the Dean, thinking Dad would fail or quit after the first semester of law school, thought it easier to let him in than to listen to more of his blarney. And that, was the beginning of my Dad's very successful, generous and compassionate legal career.

Dad considered himself something of a country attorney – hanging out his shingle when he graduated in 1965. From the beginnings it was a practice made from scratch. He literally rented a walk-in vault in a bank as his first office, in downtown White Bear Lake. In the vault, he had a desk, a few bookshelves, a big over-stuffed client chair and without money for a receptionist, a little sign he hung on the vault door that said "attorney in" on one side and "attorney out" on the other. When he would come home from a day in the vault, the kids would ask "Dad, did anyone sit in the chair today?" Eventually, the chair was rarely empty. With good humor, endless support from Mom and tremendous hard work, Dad built a successful law practice—and had fun, lots of fun, along the way.

Dad was a champion for the "little guy." He loved being a plaintiff's personal injury attorney – fighting the good fight, the David and Goliath story never got old for him. He was equally proud of being a public defender for many years in Ramsey County. The colorful clients, cases and stories from more than 40 years of practicing law is part of our family's fabric.

Despite all of his professional accomplishments though, I believe nothing was more important to my Dad than his family. Always accessible, endlessly patient, quietly spiritual, patently funny and tremendously generous – Dad humbly set an example that we will try to live up to. He taught us how to take time to live in the present, how to be current with our loved ones, how to have fun, how not to take anything too

. . .EMMETT DOWDAL cont'd

seriously – especially ourselves. Dad loved family – and he defined family to include not only his own three children, his wife, and of course his most loyal four-legged constant companion, Sadie, but also all of his nephews, nieces, in-laws, even his ex-in-laws. He drew no lines, no boundaries when it came to his family – he was all in, all the time.

As we move forward without Dad– we are in a strange new world, one that has a little less warmth and a little less laughter. But, we take comfort in knowing some part of Dad remains inside each of us, helping to navigate our journey as a family—with each other, with our spouses and with our own children, and our nieces and nephews. His lessons were not lost on us. I think the best way truly for us to honor and remember my Dad is by continuing to make him proud – and to have fun along the way.

We hold you deeply in our hearts, Dad—forever.

In closing, I found an Irish prayer that seemed to uniquely fit how my Dad lived, and also how he died. I would like to share it with you.

Death is nothing at all.
It does not count.
I have only slipped away into the next room.
Everything remains as it was.
The old life that we lived so fondly together is untouched, unchanged.
Whatever we were to each other, that we are still.
Call me by the old familiar name.
Speak of me in the easy way which you always used.
Put no sorrow in your tone.
Laugh as we always laughed at the little jokes that we enjoyed together.
Play, smile, think of me, pray for me.
Let my name be ever the household word that it always was.
Let it be spoken without effort
Life means all that it ever meant. It is the same as it ever was.
There is unbroken continuity.
Why Should I be out of mind because I am out of sight?
I am but waiting for you, for an interval, somewhere very near, just around the corner.
All is well. Nothing is hurt; nothing is lost.
One brief moment and all will be as it was before.
How we shall laugh at the trouble of parting, when we meet again.

Respectfully submitted by, Mullen J. Dowdal, Megan Dowdal-Osborn and Bridgid E. Dowdal

William E. Falvey

July 12, 1937 - December 19, 2008

William E. Falvey passed away on December 19, 2008, at his home in St. Paul, Minnesota. He was a teacher and mentor, a highly respected attorney, a champion of social justice, and a devoted family man.

Bill was born and raised in St. Paul. He graduated from the University of Minnesota and William Mitchell College of Law. He served his country in the military and as an Assistant United States Attorney. He was also in private practice with his partner John Sands.

Bill Falvey was probably best known in the legal community as the Chief of the Ramsey County Public Defender's Office. From 1976 to 1989, his leadership formed the office into a highly respected provider of legal representation to indigent defendants. Because of respect for his talents, he was appointed an original member of the Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines Commission, which faced the daunting task of making the systemic change from indeterminate to determinative sentencing. Bill thoughtfully presented perspectives often ignored in sentencing debates, both in the creation of the guideline system and its evolution in the years that followed.

Bill was a teacher and mentor. In addition to mentoring the attorneys in his office, for many years he spent a good part of a week as an instructor and critic at the trial school in Bemidji where judges, prosecutors, and defenders trained newer county attorneys and public defenders. Bill was an adjunct faculty member at William Mitchell College of Law and also taught criminal law at the College of St. Thomas.

Bill was a leader in the community, often championing social justice issues. He was active in Centro Legal, a non-profit organization providing legal services to the Latino community. He was also committed to the Listening House, which serves the homeless, disadvantaged, and lonely. When Parkinson's disease shortened his career as a public defender, he answered a call to service from his church where for 19 years he utilized his talents for that community and the greater community at large.

Bill's gift as a storyteller was one reason he was so effective at whatever he did. A twinkle in his eye would announce a joke or story he particularly liked and one sure to please whatever audience he was addressing. He used this gift in and outside of court.

Bill was a devoted family man. He was a loving husband to his wonderful wife Connie, a good father to their children, Daniel, Megan, James, and Kathleen, and a wonderful grandfather to their children. He loved to spend time outdoors especially at the lake or in a canoe in the boundary waters. He was an interna-

...WILLIAM E. FALVEY cont'd

tional traveler who visited many places and brought a little of each place back with him.

Bill received many legal honors. He was the recipient of the State Board of Public Defense Jack Durfee Award for Lifetime Distinguished Service as a Public Defender. Another award that perfectly describes Bill Falvey was the Minnesota State Bar Association, Douglas K. Amdahl Public Attorney Career Lifetime Achievement Award, he received in 2003, an "award ... intended to recognize retired public attorneys who have had distinguished careers as public attorneys, have made many significant contributions to public service and are recognized as models of the dedication and commitment of public attorneys."

Respectfully submitted by Michael F. Cromett and Ellen Seesel

Joseph M. Finley

November 24, 1924 - December 31, 2008

Joseph Moore Finley was a loving husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather, a consummate storyteller, and a mentor to generations of lawyers at Doherty, Rumble & Butler. Joe loved people, and people loved Joe.

Joe was from a pioneer family that settled in Minnesota, near Faribault, in 1855. He was a lifelong resident of Saint Paul, attending St. Mark's Grade School, St. Thomas Academy and the Nazareth Hall Seminary. Those who grew up with Joe knew him as "Bud."

When Tom Brokaw wrote his bestselling book, "The Greatest Generation," he had in mind people like Joe Finley. While some might join the Seminary to avoid fighting in an horrific war, Joe left the Seminary as soon as he turned 18 to enlist in the Marines – about a year after Pearl Harbor. Joe fought for two years in the South Pacific. He participated in the invasion of the island of Tinian, which would become an airbase from which U.S. bombers (including the Enola Gay) would fly to Japan. When World War II ended, Joe – like so many others of his great generation – managed his war memories in his own private way, seldom talking about the war until much later in life.

After the war, Joe came back home, attended the College of St. Thomas and met the love of his life, Lillian Manzavrakos. They were married in 1951 and raised four wonderful children, each of whom embodies the best of their parents.

Joe went on to attend the University of Minnesota Law School and followed his father (and several Finley uncles) into the Saint Paul legal community. Joe practiced from 1955 to 1983 at Doherty, Rumble & Butler, where he was known for his legal skill and integrity, but even more for his dedication to teaching younger lawyers. Joe treated every one of his "students" with respect and dignity and, like many great teachers, began every criticism with a word of praise – whether deserved or not. And like every successful teacher, Joe was a great listener who could relate to anybody. It was difficult to walk through downtown St. Paul with Joe and get to your destination quickly. He would stop and talk to everyone he knew along the way – and Joe knew just about everyone. Joe loved to tell a story, and the story often involved the exploits of his Irish relatives.

Joe's office at "DRB" had a side table with an inlaid chess board, upon which a game was always in progress. A smoker for many years, Joe's one great failing was that he never learned to use an ashtray. He burned the edges of a lot of good office furniture.

Despite the hierarchical nature of law firms in Joe's day, he was equally well thought of – indeed loved – by the staff at DRB. The Firm always footed the bill

... **JOSEPH M. FINLEY** cont'd

for the staff's annual Holiday party, but Joe Finley was the only attorney ever "allowed" to sit down and join the staff at the Holiday party dinner.

Joe never complained. Even in his final months at the Saint Anthony Home, he talked constantly about how good the food was and how well the staff treated him. Joe's family remembers him as a devoted and respectful husband and an infinitely patient and amiable father.

Joe is survived by his loving wife, Lil, and his devoted children and their spouses: Joseph and Mary Finley, Matthew and Terese Finley, Daniel Finley and Chirfei Chen, and Rebecca Finley and Dan Olson; by his grandchildren and their spouses: Bridget and Brock Lund, Celeste and Russ Bosn, Tiffany, J. William, Colette and Brenna Finley, and Bill Mather; and by great grandchildren Molly and Maggie Lund.

Joe will be greatly missed.

Respectfully submitted by Alan I. Silver, John J. McGirl, James R. Crassweller, Henry D. Flasch, T. Jerome Halloran, Hon. Elizabeth H. Martin, David G. Martin, George L. May, Jeffrey B. Oberman, Boyd H. Ratchye, Thomas E. Rohricht and Marge Virnig.

Craig W. Gagnon

December 19, 1940 - February 16, 2008

Craig was raised in Maple Lake, Minnesota with his two brothers, Bruce and Tom. After graduating from high school in Maple Lake, he attended the University of Minnesota where he graduated in 1964. He worked for a brief time while in college for Proctor & Gamble selling toothpaste and then decided to go back to college. After graduating, he went to William Mitchell College of Law and graduated in 1968. While in law school he clerked for Judge Earl Larson. He was the valedictorian of his law school class and achieved *magna cum laude*. He started his legal career in fall of 1968 at the firm then known as Oppenheimer, Wolff, Foster, Shepherd & Donnelly, working in business litigation. He tried personal injury as well as business cases. However, he spent the majority of his professional career defending accountants and trying securities cases. He tried a number of jury trials involving accountants. One case required him to move to Pierre, South Dakota, for approximately six months. The jury was out a substantial period of time and found his client to be negligent. However, the jury also found that his client had caused no damage, preserving Craig's record as never having lost a case against one of his accounting clients. His skill at relating to juries was renowned. Craig served as a mentor to many other lawyers, teaching them what came to him so naturally: the skill of trial advocacy.

He eventually retired from the Oppenheimer firm, where he had served as a member and chair of its Policy Committee. He was honored by many of his colleagues, for his trial expertise. He was elected a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, and was a member of the American Law Institute, as well as a number of other honorary organizations. He was also listed for many years in the Best Lawyers of America. Craig believed in giving back to the community serving for many years on the Board of Trustees of William Mitchell College, retiring from the Board as its chair.

While developing his legal practice, he became a business and real estate entrepreneur. His entrepreneurial successes were equal to his legal successes. He became chair and director of Equity Bank of Minnetonka, and he was a founding director of the holding company for First Florida Bank, which eventually merged into Synovis.

His personal activities outside the practice of law and his entrepreneurship were equally amazing. Craig hunted for many years with his brother, Bruce in Alaska, with both bow and arrow and rifle. On one such trip he brought back an 8 foot grizzly bear which stood in his office during much of his career. After his retirement, the bear retired to his cabin in Deer Lake, Wisconsin. He hunted and fished in Mexico, Montana, Alaska, and Argentina or wherever one of his friends suggested.

...CRAIG GAGNON cont'd

While a very dominant man because of his size and presence, he immediately engendered friendship and lifetime relationships with people in all walks of life, from the local person running the fishing guide shack in International Falls, Minnesota to board chairs and presidents of large corporations. His loyalty had no bounds. Craig's life was devoted to his friends and family.

Craig was known for his long, funny, and convoluted stories. He captivated anyone who heard him tell these stories.

Craig is survived by his wife, Patty, and his daughters Nicole, Camille, Claire, Jillian, and Jane and his son, Jeffrey. His step-daughter Donna Bronk (Rob Stevenson); Elizabeth Battocletti, Jim; and his granddaughter, Isabella Rose. He is also survived by his brother Bruce and his wife Sharon, and his brother Tom and his wife, Millecent.

Toward the end of Craig's life, he suffered from some health issues, none of which visibly slowed him down in terms of hunting, fishing, going to board meetings, and constantly being interested in new entrepreneurial opportunities.

Several years before he died, Craig travelled frequently to Costa Rica where he bought a large piece of land on the Pacific Ocean. He loved visiting Costa Rica with Patty where they met many new friends of different cultures. He derived great pleasure from just standing on the coast and looking out over the Pacific Ocean.

Craig's funeral service was in St. Patrick's in Edina and the church was packed. He was buried at Maple Lake, Minnesota next to his mother and father.

Respectfully submitted by, Bruce E. Gagnon, Thomas P. Kane and Steve Liefschultz

Daniel W. Hardy

May 27, 1952 - May 17, 2008

At 55, Dan Hardy left us much too early.

Born in 1952 in Redwood Falls, Minnesota he never lost a commitment to western Minnesota, spending time throughout his adult life at the family's lake place in Spicer near his hometown.

During his college years he also became committed to Ireland and its culture. As an undergraduate at the University of St. Thomas, Dan spent his junior year studying Irish literature at Galway University. It was there that he met and, in 1976, married Mary McCay in her hometown of Athlone, Ireland. Dan adopted Athlone as a second home where the Hardys visited Mary's family regularly. Dan also developed a passion for Irish architecture and poetry. In the 1980s, he established the Twin Cities branch of the Irish Georgian Society which worked to preserve important examples of Georgian architecture in Ireland.

Dan and Mary settled in St. Paul where he attended William Mitchell. After law school he served as Special Counsel to the Commissioner of the Department of Commerce in the Securities and Real Estate Division where he worked on financial services regulation and honed skills that resulted in his taking the job of general counsel and executive vice president of the Minnesota Mortgage Bankers Association. Dan was not only an articulate spokesperson for the housing industry but also a champion of homeowners' rights. In particular, he and the MBA contributed to programs which benefited firsttime home buyers and protected borrowers from unscrupulous loan practices. As with all things professionally and personally that Dan pursued, he represented the MBA with integrity, intelligence and passion.

Dan left the Mortgage Bankers Association in 1998 to devote full time to research and the writing of a book on Cushman Rice. Dan always loved scholarship and his work led him to the conclusion that Rice, a world adventurer and Minnesota legend, was the model for F. Scott Fitzgerald's Jay Gatsby. Dan gave a well received presentation on this subject to the International Fitzgerald Conference in London in 2007. Dan completed a biography of Rice one week before his death.

Despite these accomplishments, Dan will be remembered best as a family man and friend. The love and friendship he shared with his wife Mary was admired by all who meet them. For those of us who had the privilege of knowing Dan for many years, the way he demonstrated his love and care for his children Simon and Ellie was a model to which every father should aspire.

Whenever you would meet Dan, whether it was at the Capitol, a bookstore, walking along Grand Avenue or at the Lex, he was always glad to see you,

...DANIEL W. HARDY cont'd

always interested in what you were doing, and you always came away feeling better having been with Dan. Whether you remember Dan as the lawyer, lobbyist, scholar, or friend, above all he was an excellent human being and the world is less interesting without him.

Respectfully submitted by, Scott P. Borchert

Michael A. Johnson

April 17, 1944 - July 17, 2008

Michael A. Johnson was a nontraditional law student who used his law degree in a nontraditional way to set thousands of Minnesota Dental students on their way to successful careers. He attended night school at St. Paul College of Law while working for the State of Minnesota's Department of Highways during the week and counseling on the weekends. With the support of his wife Carol, whom he married in 1966, Michael graduated from William Mitchell College of Law in 1974. Shortly after graduating, he joined the faculty at the Minnesota School of Dentistry teaching organizational management and dental jurisprudence. There he found his true passion helping young students achieve their career goals by reviewing their employment contracts and providing guidance down the right career path. He remained an active member of the faculty for over 30 years. During that time, he also taught business taxation and employer education programs at the Carlson School of Management.

Michael continually challenged himself in his work and his outside interests. During his career, he taught Professional Development Seminars and Team Building Workshops in over 20 countries. Michael also recruited and drafted contracts for new hires at Park Dental. His favorite pastime besides playing with his grandchildren was golf.

Mike's example, rather than direct influence, led both of his children to attend and graduate from William Mitchell, Michael K. Johnson in 1995 and Jill L. Schroeffer in 2000. While it is unknown whether his four young grandchildren will follow his example, they will remember his kindness and fun loving nature. Michael will also be remembered for truly exemplifying what it means to be a lawyer. He used his law degree, his time and his talents to benefit others.

Respectfully submitted by, Michael K. Johnson and Jill L. Schroeffer

R. Donald Kelly

January 28, 1929 - August 10, 2008

R. Donald "Don" Kelly, was born on January 28, 1929 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he graduated from Marquette University.

At the outbreak of the Korean War Kelly enlisted in the United States Air Force, and flew fighter jets. His war record as a pilot included a rapid promotion to First Lieutenant, several Distinguished Service medals, and flying a total of 104 combat missions. Twenty-five of those 104 combat missions were flown after the experience of being shot down, and narrowly escaping death by landing his severely damaged jet on an island beach. Only Kelly would get back into a jet after that.

Following an honorable discharge from the Air Force and graduating from Marquette University Law School in 1958, Kelly began his legal career in St. Paul as an associate in practice with his uncle, Joseph Donahue, where he became the prosecuting attorney for the City of White Bear Lake. Later he formed a partnership of fifteen years with James F. Finley. Ultimately he opened a private general practice while continuing his prosecutorial duties for the City of White Bear Lake; a position he held until his retirement.

Don was a multi-talented lawyer, but he excelled at trial work. He was totally comfortable in the courtroom never hesitating to try what needed to be tried. His ability as a negotiator is legend. He served the City of White Bear Lake well; separating the misdemeanor and gross misdemeanor wheat from the chaff, and thus respected by the Bench and Bar alike. This respect also derived from Kelly's acute Irish wit which made an appearance or assignment in White Bear Court something to look forward to.

Though Don was an extremely busy lawyer during his legal career, which spanned some thirty plus years, his four children, Kevin, Lynn, Brian, and Scott were always his first priority, and his joy.

Kelly had a lifelong love of flying, and kept a plane at Benson's Airport in White Bear Lake, Minnesota, for many years. An avid outdoorsman he built a cabin on the Ash River, which borders Voyageurs National Park in Northern Minnesota, and served on the Citizen's Park Board. Don enjoyed fishing, hunting, stargazing, bird watching; and was an avid golfer.

In 1991, after retiring from the practice of law Kelly moved to Florida. Before his exit from Minnesota he married his beloved Eloise with whom he shared his Florida adventure. While residing in Sarasota Florida, he became active in the Sarasota Retired Lawyers Association, serving as treasurer, and as a securities arbitrator. A voracious reader, Kelly had a lifelong love of learning - continuing to attend courses at the University of South Florida. He was a devoted grandfa-

...R. DONALD KELLY cont'd

ther to Sara, Colin, Nora, Miles, Jessica, Gabrielle and Annaliese; a committed volunteer for Meals on Wheels, delivering meals every Friday; and parishioner at our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church in Osprey, Florida.

R. Don Kelly, Esquire, well done.

Respectfully submitted by, Louis E. Torinus and James F. Finley

George Rapaich

June 12, 1952 - January 14, 2009

While there is currently not one yet in existence, the Public Defender's Office should have a Hall of Fame. Like professional baseball, this Hall of Fame would honor a select few of the many lawyers whose dedication, professionalism, and achievement should be honored and respected. The main criteria for induction would be that the lawyer was a dominant attorney in his era. If such a Hall of Fame existed, George Rapaich should be part of the select few. He was a dominant attorney.

The highest profile job of a Public Defender is that he or she must be a good trial lawyer. Like home runs in baseball, trial victories in the criminal defense field gather most of the public's attention. George was a good trial lawyer. This is no disgrace as the Public Defender's Office produced many outstanding trial lawyers during George's time.

However, there is more to the job than trial work. It is in these areas that George truly shone. As a negotiator, there were few as effective or tenacious as George. He sometimes negotiated after a deal was completed, anything to give his client the best situation possible. Yet, he was personable in his dealings. The best evidence of this is the large number of prosecutors who attended his memorial service in St. Paul. The same people who were frustrated with him in a negotiation came to pay their respects to him. It was always hard to stay mad at George.

As an office mate, George was terrific. He was always willing to cover cases for other attorneys who were overbooked, which in the Public Defender's Office is a daily occurrence. George also knew the value of the social part of the office. He was the one person you could count on appearing at all the social functions, be it an office party or a small gathering of friends. He loved the people he worked with and he took a personal interest in all of us.

Yet the area where he truly excelled, the area he was most dominant in was client relations. His clients loved him and were loyal to him. You could not walk anywhere in St. Paul with George without a current or former client coming up to him and greeting him warmly. This was because the client felt that no matter what happened on his case, George cared about him. George once represented a young man on a probation violation. The man had violated his probation and was looking at going to prison. The man asked George to call a probation officer that he had years before his present difficulties. This was a long shot at best, but George did it anyway. The probation officer and George successfully lobbied the court, and the judge did not send him to prison. The probation officer was amazed that someone would take the time to do such a thorough job. To this day the client still talks about George. George spent maybe an hour total with this client yet the client still asks about him 10 years later. That is the

..GEORGE RAPAICH cont'd

kind of effect George had on everyone and it was this gift that made him unique.

Ryne Sandberg was a baseball player, a 2nd baseman for the Chicago Cubs of the 1980s who is in the Baseball Hall of Fame. While he did hit a lot of home runs, he was never a home run hitter like Babe Ruth or Hank Aaron. Yet he is in the hall of fame because of his all around excellence. He was asked one time whether his induction into the hall defined his career and he said no. What defined his career, he said, was the knowledge that he learned to play the game right. The same can be said for George. He learned how to be a lawyer from people like Bill Falvey. His values were right, first client, second his own moral values, third his devotion to the office. The Ramsey County Public Defender's Office thanks him for his work for the indigent of Ramsey County, for the example he set, and for being our friend.

Respectfully submitted by, Pat McGee and John Pecchia

Peter MacIntyre Taylor

August 19, 1931 - June 8, 2008

*"Most kids think their Dad can do anything. My Dad really could."
Amy Taylor Bruneau*

To be a lawyer you generally have to be pretty bright. However, there are few attorneys that were "rocket scientists" in a former life. Pete Taylor was this and more: a sailor, skier, artist, mechanic, engineer, lawyer, and a beloved family member and friend.

Pete was born on August 19, 1931 to Gilman and Margaret (Campbell) Taylor, and died on June 8, 2008 after a courageous battle with cancer. He grew up in the Linden Hills area of Minneapolis, and attended Southwest High School graduating in 1949. He was the younger of two children. His brother, John, remembers that their home was filled with music, especially classical and baroque, as their father played the violin. Pete was a talented artist and drew all the time. Pete and his father also wrote poetry – but John remembers that they would not call this poetry, but rather "poultry" because "it was foul/fowl."

Pete's hobbies of sailing, skiing, and auto mechanics were an important part of his life. Pete's love of sailing began at a young age at Lake Harriet. John and Pete entered a race with John as the crew head and Pete as the skipper. They won and Pete was hooked. Pete, a long time member of the Lake Harriet Yacht Club, skippered his boat to many championships. Pete was also a ski instructor for Skijammers. Pete was such a superb ski instructor, that he also taught ski instructors how to become better skiers. Pete and his son, David, shared an interest in hot-rods. Pete and David enjoyed building and re-building classic cars and hot-rods with one another. David remembers that his dad could fix anything, and refused to hire a contractor, preferring to "do-it-himself." When their Spanish tile roof leaked, Pete was up on the roof, three stories high, replacing the tiles by himself.

Pete attended the University of Minnesota, graduating in 1954 with his B.S. in Industrial Design. Pete joined the ROTC at the University of Minnesota, and as a result was in the Army during the Korean War. He was sent by the Army to White Sands Proving Ground where he spent two years as a Weapons System Project officer. After his release from the Army, Pete went to work for Honeywell for 32 years, holding numerous management positions.

In his 60s, when many others would contemplate retirement and slowing down, Pete decided to attend law school — Pete attended his first law school class on his 62nd birthday. Pete went to law school with the intention of becoming a family law attorney, because he wanted to help people and families through tough times. Pete graduated William Mitchell Law School in 1995. Pete

. . .PETER M. TAYLOR cont'd

focused his practice on family law and was especially dedicated to the representation of victims of domestic violence. He enjoyed his work immensely and was named one of Minnesota's Top Lawyers in 1999 by Minneapolis-St. Paul Magazine. Pete took on pro bono cases and was a volunteer for the Tubman Alliance.

Pete's impact in his professional life is mirrored by his impact on the lives of those he loved. Pete was the beloved companion of Carol Roth, who was his childhood sweetheart. He was the father of David Taylor and Amy Taylor Bruneau. David said that he couldn't have asked for a better dad. Pete was the step-father of Bessie, Amy, and Viv. Pete inspired Bessie, and she followed in his footsteps and became a ski instructor and went to law school. He had a grandson Jacob Bruneau and a great-granddaughter, Alexis. He was the brother of John. He was the former spouse of Jan Taylor and Mahryam Daniels and a friend and mentor to Bill, John, Peter, and David Roth.

Pete made the world around him a better place: through his love for his family and friends, his professionalism with his colleagues, and his advocacy for his clients. No one could ask for a better legacy than this. He will be remembered for his compassion, integrity, and for his good humored and intelligent friendship. He is greatly missed.

Respectfully submitted by, Karen Terese Kugler