

R A M S E Y C O U N T Y  B A R A S S O C I A T I O N

Memorials

Friday, April 29, 2011

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

Two o'clock

"It's not length of life, but depth of life."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

The traditional opening remarks
and introduction of dignitaries
of the Chief Judge of the District Court
were omitted from the booklet of the
Memorial Proceedings of the
Ramsey County Bar Association
for the year 2011.

IN MEMORY OF

Richard Baldwin

Suzanne Elizabeth Flinsch

Hon. Sandra Gardebring

Hon. Gerald Heaney

Daniel Jacobowski

Pattee Kilday

Paul Kinneberg

Donald Lais

Robert McGuigan

James O'Neill

Jean Wassenaar

Richard Baldwin

September 26, 1944 - October 17, 2010

Richard Baldwin was born on September 26, 1944 in St. Paul, Minnesota. He was the second of eight children born to John and Phyllis Baldwin, and by far the most argumentative. He attended St. Mark's School and St. Thomas Academy before studying history and literature at the University of St. Thomas. He worked his way through law school by taking various odd jobs, earning a law degree from the University of Minnesota in 1969. He joined Legal Aid through the Vista program, making a name for himself as a housing rights lawyer. He subsequently moved into private practice with a focus on Civil Litigation.

In his 40 years of practice, Richard Baldwin revolutionized product liability law in Minnesota. He represented Kelley Company in the case *Bilotta v. Kelley*, Minnesota's defining products liability case. In *Gryc v. Dayton Hudson Corporation*, he represented the plaintiff Gryc and successfully argued that punitive damages were appropriate in Product Liability cases – a first in Minnesota. He pushed to change the law to allow for plaintiff's bad faith claims against insurers in the *Gryc* case as well as the litigation that preceded *Kissondath v. U.S. Fire Insurance*. Later in his career, he lectured about product liability and insurance bad faith claims throughout the Twin Cities, and was called to court as an expert on the topic.

Throughout his career, Richard Baldwin built a reputation as a creative and tough litigator. He took on cases that other lawyers dismissed as too far-reaching or too challenging, often with great success. He loved fighting for the little guy, whether the little guy's injury came from a malfunctioning artificial leg, unsafe pajamas, or poorly designed ovens. His clients were often blue collar workers and people unsophisticated about the law, and Richard Baldwin used the law to provide them the dignity that they deserved.

In his private life, Richard Baldwin took great pleasure in the Minnesota wilderness, spending as much time as possible at his cabin on Lake Vermillion. His love of literature and history, which began in high school and college, continued throughout his life; his bookshelves were – are – filled with dog-eared books about rock & roll, religion, revolutionary history, and romantic poetry, to name a small selection. As he began contemplating retirement, his thoughts and energies turned to world travel. He was able to see Asia, Europe, Africa, and South America, and left this world with many more adventures in the works.

He was fiercely loyal to his family and friends, and nurtured the relationships he held dear. He is survived by his wife Peggy, children Chester (Jennifer) and Laura (Sam), Grandchildren Louis, Honora, Esme, and Frances, siblings Mimi, Dan (Cheryl), Mark, Chris (Alfrieda), Suzanne (Mike), Tony (Joni), many nieces and nephews, and countless friends.

.. **RICHARD BALDWIN** cont'd

To the end, he taught those around him about diligence, passion, and faith. He inspired people to see what is possible even if it doesn't immediately seem probable. He loved life, loved the law, and loved the people he was able to help through his profession.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laura Baldwin

Suzanne Elizabeth Flinsch

October 7, 1940 - May 9, 2010

I am honored to be asked by Sue Flinsch's family to present on her behalf. Sue was a colleague, mentor, and friend to many. I was fortunate enough to begin my career as a public defender under her wing and she became a dear friend.

Sue was one of the pioneer women in the legal profession. Anyone who had been in Sue's office saw the Minnesota State Bar Association's letter prominently displayed congratulating her on her admission to the Bar. The letter's salutation was "Dear Sir." Sue had a way of reminding the world that she was not going to forget what stereotypes she and others women had to break through some forty years ago.

Sue's first job was as an assistant Ramsey County Attorney. Her early years included being named the first woman St. Paul City Attorney as well as practicing in the private sector and then at the Ramsey County Public Defender's Office. Many years later Sue still spoke fondly of her earlier years with the Bills—Bill Randall and Bill Faivey. It was those years here in Ramsey County that Sue enjoyed the most, in great measure due to the lasting friendships and the mutual respect of her fellow members of the Ramsey Bar.

Sue's heart was always in public service, more specifically, public defense. Aside from her two stints at the Ramsey County Public Defender's Office, she served her last dozen years as assistant public defender in Dakota County. She was a tireless advocate for the indigent. She shied from no case and relished tackling the most difficult "facts". Sue was especially dedicated representing those that would have been the most trying for the rest of us. Her ability to see hope in even the most down-and-out was without peer.

As I talked with others about what they remembered most about Sue, without exception colleagues mentioned her unselfishness in helping them as young attorneys. It was a role she filled without fanfare, but quiet dedication. She offered endless hours in analyzing, strategizing and supporting those of us with less experience. She also volunteered her services to law schools and their mentoring programs.

I was one of those who benefited from Sue's counsel. Sue treated me as an equal straight from the start. As a young attorney, I had virtually no clue how to select a jury, frame an argument, and deal with all the nuances of a different type of clientele. I was thrilled that not only would Sue ignore my inadequacies, she was actually willing to spend time leading me through the maze of motions, and pre-trial issues and all the other trial work. Her patience with me was endless, and I continued to lean on Sue to guide me with each case, since none ever seemed to present the same facts. When I saw Sue mentor others when we worked together full time in Dakota County, I realized that Sue helped every-

...SUZANNE E. FLINSCH cont'd

one who asked. And there were many. Actually, I was kind of shocked that she had such a large following because I thought I used up most of her extra time.

Sue quickly became a friend. It is rather ironic that courthouse staff in Dakota County routinely confused Sue for me and vice versa. Sue was about five inches shorter and a few stones lighter than I. Of course, I was about 20 years younger. Yet, we both took it as a compliment to be associated with the other.

As much as Sue was a special advocate, she had many other interests. Anyone who visited her home saw the results of her green thumb. Her gardens were huge and bountiful. She was a cook extraordinaire, but was reticent in making any such claim. Holidays and family gatherings included many friends who gathered around the table. Meals became quite a large affair, and the food was always plentiful and delicious.

And as many of Sue's friends from law school remember and can attest, Sue was a gifted bridge player. She was an expert who tolerated those of us who played less "conventionally." That is not easy to do in a game dictated by rigid parameters. Surprisingly, she never got angry over my rather cavalier bidding. In fact, Sue was pretty unflappable in just about every trying circumstance that arose...including politics. Fortunately, as a testament to Sue's intelligence, she had the insight to run for only one term of elected office.

The only thing that rose above Sue's dedication to the law was the love she had for her family. Monty, James and Elizabeth were Sue's proudest accomplishments. Her grandchildren were the apples of her eye: Grace, Olivia, Harriet, and not quite two years ago, the twins: Emmett and Cora. Jim, Sue's husband of 30-plus years, shared many accomplishments with Sue. They were well known and respected in the Afton community.

On behalf of Sue's family, I thank the Ramsey County Bar Association for the wonderful opportunity to remember those who were a part of the fabric of the Ramsey County Bar. Sue remarked on more than one occasion that despite the last 15 years spent in Dakota County, Ramsey County was always home. Ramsey County with its small community of lawyers and judges were like a family to her. She was proud to be a part of that tradition. Her family and I thank you for the privilege of honoring Sue here today.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Wingfield and Tanya Derby

The Honorable Sandra Bailey Gardebring Ogren

June 15, 1947 - July 20, 2010

Sandra Bailey Gardebring Ogren lived a full, rich life, compressed into too few years. She was born on June 15, 1947, in Bismarck, North Dakota, surrounded by a loving family that quickly learned that Sandee was a child with great energy and a passion for justice.

While attending Luther College, Sandee led a Quaker tour of America's South, going church-to-church in Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia, preaching peace as an alternative to the war in Vietnam. After a brief stint as a reporter for the Bismarck Tribune, Sandee attended the University of Minnesota Law School, graduating cum laude in 1973.

Sandee's multi-faceted career of public service began at the Attorney General's Office. She caught the attention of Governor Rudy Perpich who appointed her twice as Director of the Pollution Control Agency, with a break while Sandee served as Director of Enforcement for the Regional Office of the Environmental Protection Agency. Then, Governor Perpich appointed Sandee Chair of the Metropolitan Council, and, in 1986, Commissioner of Human Services.

It was while she served as Commissioner of Human Services that I learned what a wonderful, accomplished, energetic person Sandee was. Never afraid of a challenge, Sandee developed a new program to help welfare recipients become self-sufficient. Through her efforts, the Minnesota Family Investment Program became a national model for welfare reform, giving families the tools to become self-sufficient, providing incentives for mothers and fathers to support their children and gain the skills to do so.

While at Human Services, Sandee also launched Minnesota's efforts to move persons with developmental disabilities out of large state facilities and into smaller, community-based homes. She brought together a broad range of stake-holders to tackle the barriers to change and build a better alternative for those who would need state support. Despite set-backs, Sandee kept her eye on the prize, and made enormous strides toward that goal. She was fearless, tireless, creative, strategic and persuasive.

Of course, Sandee could not accomplish all of this alone. She inspired others to work harder, smarter and more effectively. She had vision and strategies to make things happen, the charisma to motivate and lead, and the passion and energy to work for what she believed was right. Although she was a tough taskmaster, she tempered her drive for results with a great sense of humor, an infectious laugh and a refusal to take herself too seriously.

While at Human Services, Sandee met and married Paul Ogren, Chair of the Minnesota House Health and Human Services Committee. Although many feared

. . .HON. SANDRA GARDEBRING cont'd

the collision of these two strong-willed, passionate people, those characteristics, tempered with love and humor, enhanced the best in both of them and brought them great joy.

With so much success, Sandee might have stayed in the executive branch to tackle other public policy issues, but as Sandee's father once remarked, she was a bright girl, but seemed to have a hard time holding down a job. So, instead of sticking with public policy, she returned to a career in law.

In 1989, Governor Perpich appointed Sandee to the Minnesota Court of Appeals, and in 1991, he elevated her to the Minnesota Supreme Court. She served on that Court until 1998, focusing her efforts on juvenile justice and legal recognition of Tribal courts. Her colleagues on the court admired her work ethic, her intellect and her commitment to justice. It was during this time that Sandee was also a founding member of the Center for Victims of Torture, offering victims from around the world the support to begin life anew.

Although intellectually challenging, the work of the Supreme Court kept Sandee a bit isolated and too far from the fray, and in 1998, the University of Minnesota successfully recruited her to the position of Vice President for External Relations, where she served with Presidents Yudof and Bruininks. Once again, her intellect, willingness to tackle tough problems, drive for excellence, common sense and political acumen were channeled into making Minnesota a better place for all.

But in 2004, Sandee left Minnesota, lured perhaps by a lovely retirement home and the sunshine of California, and became Vice President for Advancement at California Polytechnic University of San Luis Obispo. She retired a month prior to her death on July 20, 2010, at age 63, bringing to a close her brilliant career as a public servant.

Sandee is survived by her husband, Paul, stepchildren, Sam and Shana, many friends and extended family members. Sandee's light shone bright, and those close to her will never forget her gifts of love and laughter, her grace, and the courage with which she faced her cancer and death. Surely she lived each day as if it were her last, and made the most of her time on this earth.

Respectfully Submitted,
Beverly Jones Heydinger

The Honorable Gerald W. Heaney

January 19, 1918 - June 22, 2010

When he died on June 22, 2010, Judge Gerald W. Heaney epitomized what Tom Brokaw called "The Greatest Generation." He was a true American hero. Born a child of the depression, Gerald Heaney was a decorated war veteran, a builder of the DFL party, community leader in northeast Minnesota, and an outstanding judge on the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals for more than 40 years.

Gerald William Heaney, one of seven children, was born January 19, 1918, in Goodhue, Minnesota. He grew up in Goodhue where the three characteristics that shaped the rest of his life were instilled in him: a strong work ethic, a strong Catholic faith, and an abiding interest in politics, especially Democratic politics.

Although his family had extremely limited means, Gerald Heaney was able to attend the College of St. Thomas with a scholarship. After attending St. Thomas for two years, he transferred to and graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1939 and from the Law School in 1941. When color blindness kept him out of the Marines in December 1941, he persevered and volunteered for the Army in mid-1942. He joined the elite Second Ranger Battalion and landed with the Rangers' Company B in the first wave on Omaha Beach on D-Day, June 6, 1944. He fought with the Rangers under General Patton across Europe. After Germany surrendered, Gerald was able to use his law school training to help rewrite the labor laws of Bavaria. In the fall, he rejoined his Ranger friends and returned home.

Two subsequent decisions would forever shape his life. First, Gerald married the love of his life, Eleanor Schmidt, in St. Paul, Minnesota, on December 1, 1945. Then, in January 1946, Gerald and Eleanor moved to Duluth, Minnesota, where he practiced labor law. He became the premier labor lawyer in Duluth, a strong, proud labor town. He also became a tireless advocate for the betterment and development of Duluth and all of northeastern Minnesota. In his spare time, he served as a key advisor and strategist for the Democratic Farmer Labor party and its leaders, including Hubert Humphrey, Orville Freeman, Eugene McCarthy, and Walter Mondale. He served on the University of Minnesota Board of Regents and was a strong advocate for the University; in particular, for its "main" campus in Duluth.

In 1966, with the support of Senators McCarthy and Mondale, and the help of his close friend, Vice President Humphrey, he was named to the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit by President Lyndon Johnson. He served on the Federal Bench for 40 years, taking senior status in 1988 and finally retiring at age 88 in 2006. His approach to judging was marked by hard work and dedication to the causes of justice and equality with special emphasis on the poor, the disadvantaged, and the oppressed.

... HON. GERALD HEANEY cont'd

In an interview with MPR following his retirement, Judge Heaney summed up his life modestly and succinctly:

“In my life experiences of growing up in a small town, with a kind father (his mother died when he was young), serving in the army, representing the labor movement, being involved in politics, being heavily involved in the community ... so finally when you get a hard case, a tough case that people can reasonably disagree on, it comes down to really what you think is best for our country in the long run.”

His twenty-five hundred opinions and writings on legal issues shaped many areas of the law, but none more so than desegregation. Legal scholars point to the landmark St. Louis desegregation case as the most significant case of Judge Heaney's career. In *Liddell v. Board of Education of the City of St. Louis*, he led the court in providing for the desegregation of St. Louis Public Schools by allowing black children to attend mostly white, suburban schools at the cost of the state. He felt it wasn't enough to say they had a right to be integrated; they needed the means to do so. By 1999, the end of the litigation's 18-year history, Judge Heaney had written 27 panel opinions on St. Louis desegregation. In 2004, he and Susan Uchitelle co-authored the book: *Unending Struggle: The Long Road to an Equal Education in St. Louis*.

The rights of suspects and defendants were also of keen interest to Judge Heaney, as was what he saw as the unfairness and rigidity of the federal sentencing guidelines. He wrote leading opinions in the areas of freedom of expression, equal employment, and social security. In an interview after the Judge's death, his good friend Vice President Walter F. Mondale said that Judge Heaney “should have been on the Supreme Court. Many judges have told me he was one of the most influential members of the bench. He issued a range of decisions trying to get at the evil of racial discrimination, and often his circuit court dissents became majority opinions when they got up to the Supreme Court.”

In whatever he did, Judge Heaney was a tireless advocate for the positions he held dear and the positions he felt were important to the country. He was relentless in his pursuit of a more equal and just United States. He knew the battle was never won or lost, but was a never-ending series of skirmishes to be fought. And fought he did. When he retired after 40 years of service on the Court at the age of 88, he was asked whether he might mediate or arbitrate in his retirement. His response was clear and certain. He immediately stated that, “No, I will not mediate or arbitrate; I plan to agitate.”

Respectfully Submitted,
Joe Dixon and Bob Hennessey

Daniel G. Jacobowski

September 9, 1928 – June 8, 2009

Daniel G. Jacobowski was president of his graduating class at Cretin High School and received a social science degree from the College of St. Thomas. In high school and college, Dan was in numerous clubs and performed in several school musicals. He also worked downtown Saint Paul as a meat cutter and union member, which introduced him to the field of labor relations and eventually led to his long career as a labor arbitrator.

In 1950, Dan married Mary Jean Mooney, and they moved to the East Coast, where he worked as an AFL union organizer in Delaware and Maryland. Dan later worked for the CIO Electrical Workers Union in Washington, D.C. Dan and Jean originally moved out east because Dan was accepted at Georgetown Law School, but he was so busy working that he wasn't able to attend law school there. From 1952-54, Dan was in the U.S. Army stationed at Fort Hood, where he lived with his wife and their first child. Dan became a second lieutenant and was a training instructor, who wrote and performed skits for troops learning tank operations.

As much as Dan and Jean enjoyed living in the Washington, D.C. area, upon his discharge from the army they decided to move back home to Minnesota to raise their family. After working in labor relations at General Mills and as the personnel director at Superior Plating in Minneapolis, Dan returned to Saint Paul in 1956 as the first director of the city's Fair Employment Practices Commission (later the Human Rights Department) until 1960. It was during those years that Dan studied law and graduated from William Mitchell College of Law.

From 1960-65, Dan was a labor lawyer at Robins, Davis, and Lyons in Saint Paul. The next year he started his own practice in downtown Saint Paul, associating at various times with John Bannigan, Don Lais, Sy Doffing, and Bill Hennessy, among others. Dan began working as a labor arbitrator in 1969, and by 1981 he was a full-time arbitrator. Over the years he decided hundreds of cases in arbitrations throughout the Midwest for industry, the American Arbitration Association, the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, many school districts, and various government agencies, including the Minnesota Bureau of Mediation Services, the IRS, the VA, the Social Security Administration, and the U.S. Postal Service. Dan was meticulous, and he was a hard-working and well-respected arbitrator for nearly five decades.

Dan was serious about his Catholic faith. He was active in the St. Mark's and Immaculate Heart of Mary parishes, and he worked on several projects for the Archdiocese. He enjoyed attending Mass at several churches—he knew which ones served the best coffee and donuts after Mass.

. . .DANIEL JACOBOWSKI cont'd

Dan had a style all his own. He wore bow ties to his arbitrations, and his multi-colored, striped, terry-cloth blazer, and his green and white, St. Patrick's Day shamrock blazer, both custom-made by his wife, were two of his favorites and most memorable. Dan also was an inveterate bus rider. He seemed to know the Grand Avenue bus schedule by heart. His family remembers that he hated to waste time waiting for the bus, and they often saw him running to catch the bus on his way to work. Dan spent many late evenings at the office, staying until the last minute before dashing off to catch the bus home. His family knew he was home when they heard him whistling as he came up the sidewalk.

A devoted family man, Dan loved spending time with his family at home, camping, and at their lake home on Green Lake in Chisago County. Dan enjoyed fishing, swimming, ice skating, and tobogganing. He seemed to thrive on hard work, and he chopped wood, shoveled snow, cut the grass, and maintained his lake home and his home in Saint Paul until his death.

Dan and Jean Jacobowski truly were life partners. Not only did they raise their eight children, but they also played bridge, ballroom danced, and traveled to Europe, to numerous world's fairs, and to out-of-state arbitrations and legal conventions. They also made pilgrimages to religious shrines in several countries and to see two popes.

Dan was an energetic man who never talked about retiring. A bar association member for 50 years, Dan died with an active arbitration caseload on June 8, 2009, only three months after he was diagnosed with cancer. He left surviving his wife of 59 years, seven of their eight children, 13 grandchildren, one great-grandchild, and his only sister, Corrine. With Dan's death, our legal community lost a fair-minded and dedicated arbitrator, a kind and loyal man, and a unique and positive presence.

Respectfully Submitted,
John Richardson and Tom Jacobowski

Pattee Kilday

February 11, 1923 – October 18, 2010

Pattee Kilday was a pioneer: as an early woman graduate of the University of Minnesota Law School, as a Catholic nun and as a promoter of alternative dispute resolution for church conflicts.

Pattee's family encouraged her community activism and leadership from an early age. She received further encouragement from the nuns who taught her at Basilica Grade School and the Academy of Holy Angels. With a lifelong passion for justice, she was among the first women to study law and receive her degree at the University of Minnesota, graduating in 1946. She spent two decades in private practice in Minneapolis.

An era of new excitement in Catholic life (often called "Vatican II") captured her imagination, and in 1965 she joined a religious order called the Daughters of the Heart of Mary (DMH). The DMH had been founded in the turmoil of the French Revolution as a community of nuns who lived outside traditional convents and who dressed in secular clothing rather than in sisters' habits. Joining this particular religious order appealed to Pattee's fashion sense as well as to her desire to be an active Christian presence in the legal world.

Six years after she became a nun, her life took another turn. She went to work for the Metropolitan Tribunal of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis. Part of her work was with couples whose first marriages had fallen apart and who wanted to seek recognition of a subsequent marriage in the church. For this work, she received extra training in canon law, the ancient system of procedures and norms that regulate Catholic systems.

She also put her civil legal training to work in developing the nation's first system of alternative dispute resolution under the auspices of the Catholic Church. She became executive director of the Office of Due Process for the archdiocese in 1971, and assembled a team of volunteer conciliators and arbitrators.

Through her trustworthy leadership and persuasive promotion, the conciliation and arbitration services she coordinated locally were widely utilized. She became a national advocate, encouraging other jurisdictions to adopt similar practices. She met with only moderate success. After the first two decades for its operation, she estimated that her own office had processed as many conflicts by alternative resolution means as had been processed in the rest of the United States.

She lived her last 15 years as a retiree from legal practice but also as an active participant in the life of her religious order.

Respectfully Submitted,
Fr. Kevin McDonough and Andy Eisenzimmer

Paul Kinneberg

October 14, 1913 – February 15, 2010

Paul Kinneberg passed at his home on February 15, 2010. Paul was preceded in death by his wife Lucille, son John, great grandson, Nicholas, and Paul's brother and two of his sisters. He is survived by daughter Winifred, son Paul and his wife Martha, son Barry and his wife Janet, 9 grandchildren, 9 great grandchildren and his sister, Alice Conrad. Paul was born October 14, 1913. He was the second of 5 children born to Alec and Sophia Kinneberg of Staples, Minnesota. Paul grew up in Staples, where he attended the Grade School and graduated from Staples High School. He worked his way through the University of Minnesota. Upon graduation from the U, he went to work for the Minnesota Department of Revenue, where he worked as an auditor. After 12 years with the Department of Revenue, Paul was hired by Brown & Bigelow to work in the Brown & Bigelow Tax Department. While he worked at Brown & Bigelow, he enrolled in the St. Paul College of Law (now William Mitchell College of Law), where he took classes at night. After Paul graduated and passed the Bar exam, he was promoted to the Law Department at Brown & Bigelow.

Paul was a good man, a very pleasant fellow and a good friend of many. In 1982, Paul hired Tom Schmidt, then a young lawyer in St. Paul, to work for Paul at Brown & Bigelow. Paul was then 70 years old and Tom was 33. By that time, Paul had been the Company attorney at Brown & Bigelow for more than 30 years. He knew the history of the Company from personal experience. It was a VERY colorful history that Paul could tell discreetly with great good humor. In the 1950s, Brown & Bigelow was one of the major employers in St. Paul with a national market in the calendar business. The Company was then owned by Charlie Ward. Mr. Ward had a colorful past and a flair for promoting Brown & Bigelow. During this period, Paul was often called upon when there was something important to be done. Although it may not have been clear how it would be accomplished, Paul got it done. An example of that was when the Dion quintuplets were born in Canada. Paul was sent to get a contract from calendar printing rights from the Dion Family. Off he went to Canada. It took some time but he got the contract. The famous quints became regulars on Brown & Bigelow calendars that were sold all over the U.S. and Canada.

A story Paul enjoyed telling was about an assignment he received when the Company's owner, Charlie Ward, passed away. Paul was sent to Mr. Ward's home at the J.R. Ranch, just east of the St. Croix River, to check for Company papers at the home. Paul was in Mr. Ward's bedroom and noticed a button on the wall next to the bed. He concluded the only way to determine what that button was for was to push it. So he did. Within a very few minutes several police cars came roaring up the front door of the home with sirens blaring and lights flashing. The cops ran into the home with guns drawn. Apparently, Mr. Ward had arranged for "help", if anyone from his colorful past showed up at his home.

... PAUL KINNEBERG cont'd

Paul greeted the officers and explained his mission, after thanking them for their quick response.

During this period of the growth of Brown & Bigelow, Paul worked with the St. Paul Port Authority to secure a new facility for Brown & Bigelow near the St. Paul Airport. Gene Kraut was the long-time executive at the Port Authority that Paul worked with. While Mr. Kraut was sometimes criticized for some of the ventures he permitted the Port Authority to finance, Brown & Bigelow was not one of them. Mr. Kraut often said that when he drove past Brown & Bigelow and saw the parking lot full of cars, he knew that he and the Port Authority had done the right thing. Many times over the years, Paul played key roles in keeping the Brown & Bigelow parking lots full of employees' cars. Thanks to the work that Paul did, a large number of St. Paul families paid their rent, sent their kids to school and contributed to our community.

Paul was a good man and very good natured. When the future of the Company was uncertain, you could not tell it from Paul. He exuded a quiet confidence and good natured sense of humor. Anyone who met him could tell that things would turn out all right, and they did.

More importantly, Paul was a tremendous father and husband. His greatest fortune was the good sense to marry Lucille, with whom he had four children, Winifred, John, Paul and Barry. He was a loving father and a wise counselor to his children. Paul is survived by Winifred, Paul, Barry, 9 Grandchildren and 9 Great Grandchildren. His family misses him greatly.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom Schmidt, Judge R. H. Kyle, Jerry Geis, Barry Kinneberg, D.D.S. and Mike Galvin, Jr.

Donald L. Lais

July 28, 1924 - July 23, 2010

Donald L. Lais was a leader in St. Paul, a stalwart member of the Ramsey County legal community and one of our "Greatest Generation" of Americans. Born in 1924 in Adrian, Minnesota, his family moved to St. Paul where he attended St. Thomas Military Academy (as it was then known). He served in the First Armored Division under General George Patton during World War II, seeing action in Italy, Belgium and Germany. After returning from the war, he attended St. John's University on the GI Bill and graduated from St. Paul College of Law in 1953. He met and married Betty, his wife of 59 years, had 7 children, and later, 16 grandchildren.

Having already seen more of the world and done more than many people do in their entire lifetime, Don, at age 29, embarked on a long and successful legal career. He served as the city attorney in St. Paul for a short time, and later held the same position for many years in both Maplewood and New Brighton. He formed a law firm with his two close friends, John Bannigan and Jerry Cerisi, which later became known as Lais, Bannigan, Cerisi & Kelly, P.A. He served as president of the Minnesota Association of Municipal Attorneys and ended his legal career as a workers compensation judge for the State of Minnesota. He enjoyed a wide range of personal and business friends and colleagues.

As part of his public service legal career, Don became involved in a number of high profile issues. In the early 1960's he helped write, as the city attorney for St. Paul, one of the earliest human rights ordinances for any municipality. He publicly feuded with St. Paul Mayor, George Vavoulis, concerning the legal advice he gave to the city about buying the Hillcrest Golf Course in 1963. He served briefly as the city manager of Maplewood at a time when one of our incumbent district court judges was the mayor.

He was not timid about taking a public position on an important issue which clashed with the political conventional wisdom of the time if he thought it was the right thing for his city.

Don was known for his sense of humor. When his partner, John Bannigan, would go on about the benefits of long-distance running, Don – who was more than a bit overweight – would reply that his favorite form of exercise was acting as a pallbearer at the funerals of his friends who were runners. Don would want it noted that he outlived the younger Banningan.

Although he traveled in public circles and regularly dealt with the movers and shakers in St. Paul and suburban politics, Don was ultimately a simple and charitable man, who was a long-time member of the Assumption Catholic Church parish in downtown St. Paul. Even when he had a household full of his own children, Don brought home a homeless twelve-year-old girl who he had learned was living at a St. Paul bar. She lived with the family until she was

...DONALD LAIS cont'd

eighteen and was educated in Catholic school at Don's expense. He acted as mentor to the younger members of his law firm and his door was always open for a story about St. Paul history or some common sense advice.

Don never drank, but was active in mentoring members of Alcoholics Anonymous, gaining life-long friends in the process.

Don died on July 23, 2010 of congestive heart failure, surrounded by his family. He is survived by Betty, and 7 children, Helen, Mary, Tom, Greg, Charlie, Joann and Ruth - and those 16 grandchildren.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jerry Ciresi, Patrick Kelly and Mike Black

Robert J. McGuigan

April 24, 1919 – January 17, 2010

Robert J. McGuigan was born on April 24, 1919, in Wabasha, Minnesota, the second child of Hugh and Marie McGuigan. Bob passed away peacefully on January 17, 2010. Bob grew up in Wabasha, Minnesota, and attended St. Felix Grade School and High School, thereafter moving on to St. John's University and finally the St. Paul College of Law, from which he graduated in 1942.

After a stint in the United States Army, Bob returned to St. Paul and was honored to be appointed the Executive Secretary of the Minnesota State Bar Association. As such, he counseled over 200 veterans and assisted many in job placement. He gained national recognition appearing on American Bar Association programs and was elected secretary of the American Bar Association Activities Section. Bob served as Secretary until March of 1948, when he joined his brother, John H. McGuigan, and formed the partnership of McGuigan & McGuigan with offices in the Liberty State Bank Building in St. Paul, where Bob continued to practice until his retirement in approximately 1987.

Bob married his best friend, Marjorie K. Schmitz, on March 25, 1943. Bob and Marj have three daughters, Kathleen, Nancy and Janet. Bob was an exemplary and involved husband and father, dedicated to Marjorie and their children. In 1957, Bob and Marj purchased their family cabin on Long Lake outside of Luck, Wisconsin. It was and remains a wonderful place dedicated to the nurturing of his family, the fellowship of his many friends and an abiding appreciation of nature and the woods. Throughout his life, Bob was an avid and skilled outdoorsman, hunter and fisherman. He was a very interested person, an avid reader, and he loved sports, politics, and the discussion of those and almost any other topics. Bob had sharp and ever-present wit and sense of humor, and a contagious laugh.

Bob was an exceptional lawyer and throughout his career, practiced in varied and diverse areas of the law, focusing on estate planning, estate administration, and commercial transactional work in the second half of his career. Bob was an excellent lawyer by any measure. His attention to detail was second to none. He set the highest possible standards for honesty and ethical practice. He was a diligent student of the law and never stopped learning. Bob enjoyed a very successful practice and was dedicated to the ethical service of his many and loyal clients. He always treated people, all people, with respect and dignity. He also gave freely of his time and expertise in mentoring his nephews and the many other lawyers, young and old alike who routinely sought his counsel and advice. His work was always timely, careful and thoughtful. Bob rightfully earned the respect and admiration of his clients, his peers, his family and those who were fortunate enough to practice with him.

.. .ROBERT MCGUIGAN cont'd

Bob was always active in the Bar Associations, particularly the Ramsey County Bar, where he served on the Management Committee, as Chair of the Economics of Law Committee, and as a member of various other sections and committees. In 1992, Bob was proud to be awarded his fifty year Senior Counselor Certificate from the Minnesota State Bar in recognition of his years of honorable service.

Throughout his life, Bob was dedicated to his loving wife, Marjorie, and his children, and his God. He took great joy and pride in his sons-in-law, Daniel, Gregory and Anthony, and his grandchildren, Sarah, Gregory, Ann, Katie, Amy and Michael, and his great-grandchildren, Christian, Lucy and Nora. He was a consummate role model as a husband, parent, son, brother and uncle, and as a distinguished, and accomplished professional. While we miss his enriching presence, his fast walk, his sharp wit, his quick laugh, the jingling of the keys in his pocket, and his cheerful whistle; we will keep forever the memory of one of the very best of men.

Respectfully Submitted,
Patrick McGuigan

James C. O'Neill

January 2, 1929 – February 12, 2009

James C. O'Neill was born January 2, 1929, in Minneapolis, the second of four children of Gertrude O'Neill and Francis O'Neill. His mother was a native of Mankato and a registered nurse; his father, from St. Paul, was then a newspaperman at *The Minneapolis Tribune*. In 1930 his parents moved to Cleveland, Ohio, where his father worked for an afternoon daily, *The Cleveland News*. Jim graduated from high school in 1947 and was the recipient of scholarship offers from Harvard and Yale, as well as proffered appointments to Annapolis and West Point. Contrary to the advice of his father (an infantry lieutenant in the First World War), Jim accepted the appointment to West Point; however Jim resigned with an honorable discharge in February 1950 after 2 ½ years at West Point. He returned to the Twin Cities getting his B.A. degree with honors from the University of Minnesota in August 1951 (English lit major, mathematics minor), and then pushing on to a M.A. degree in literature by June 1953.

That same month, June 1953, he married Cynthia Kelley, whom he had met at the University. Jim applied at the University of Minnesota Law School, was admitted, and graduated with his Class of 1957, Jim finishing third or fourth on the Bar Exam that summer, and joined the firm then known as Bundlie, Kelley & Maun for the going-rate salary of \$300 a month in the fall of 1957.

He stayed with this firm, or more precisely at its location, 425 Hamm Building, surviving all the principals, all his life. During the 1970s, Jim provided service to the Bar: six years on the ethics committee, five years teaching a labor law course at William Mitchell; three years co-chairing an A.B.A. labor law subcommittee; one year as chairman of the State labor law section. Jim's primary love was labor law. Jim was for many years listed as one of an exclusive few lawyers in the United States named as the "Best Lawyers in America" in the area of labor law. After Jim retired, they kept him on this exclusive list until he wrote them and demanded they remove his name as he was getting numerous phone calls requesting his services.

Jim died on February 12, 2009. He was predeceased by his nourishing parents and his wife, Cynthia, but is survived by his three sons James W. O'Neill (Susan); Kelley McC. O'Neill (Cindy); and Hampton K. O'Neill (Sher); his two brothers: Mark of Cleveland, Ohio and David of Eugene, Oregon; his sister Frances Zimmerman of San Diego, California; his seven grandchildren Fiona and Andrew; Haley, Hanna and Harper; Colin and Riley; plus two step-children, Seth and Karlee Burstad.

...JAMES O'NEILL cont'd

Jim never worried about his Clan. He was confident they would follow Mark Twain's teaching: "Always do right. This will gratify some people, and astonish the rest."

Respectfully Submitted,

Timothy J. Dwyer, Hampton K. O'Neill and Rev. John Malone

Jean Nelson Wassenaar

September 2, 1942 – November 2, 2009

In her 1960 high school yearbook, Jean Nelson Wassenaar wrote that she wanted to study law and help the lives of children. Jean achieved these and many other goals through her optimistic determination and dedication.

Jean was a polio survivor who learned to walk again at the age of thirteen. When in her later years Jean experienced physical deterioration related to her childhood polio, she refused to allow those challenges to slow her down. After helping to care for her brothers and sisters as they were growing up, Jean became the first member of her family to attend a four year college, graduating from the University of Madison, Wisconsin.

Jean became the sole bread winner for her family of four, and for over forty years continued to take care of and to experience joy and pride in her two sons and her husband.

Jean realized her goal of studying law when she graduated from William Mitchell College of Law with the Class of 1985.

Like many William Mitchell graduates, Jean worked full-time while she attended the law school's night program. During her law school studies she was employed at what was then U-S West Telephone Company. Upon graduation, she worked for Norwest Bank for several years in their corporate legal division. In 1990 Jean began a long and fruitful career at West Publishing, now Thomson Reuters in Eagan, Minnesota.

At Thomson, Jean worked as both a reference attorney and in the company's product development. In her 19 years with the company, she became a mentor and a guide for many people, and was especially instrumental in assisting many of her female colleagues in their professional development with the company.

Jean was distinguished by her service to the non-profit community. For fifteen years she volunteered for the Minneapolis Legal Aid Society providing pro-bono services for families and children in need. For over twenty four years, she provided legal support and leadership on the Board of Directors of Powderhorn Residents Group (PRG), a non-profit housing developer in Minneapolis. Jean served as President of the PRG board for ten years using her legal experience and leadership skills to guide the organization through several difficult transition periods.

Jean also served as a volunteer and board member with Southside Family Nurturing Center, a non-profit devoted to building healthy families in a non-violent setting. She was active in DFL politics and was valued as a tireless volunteer in the community.

.. JEAN WASSENAAR cont'd

Jean was always motivated by the question of what the law could do to support families and make our community more just and fair. As a resident at the Olson Town Homes on the Near North Side of Minneapolis, she played a key role in a tenant strike for low-income families against the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The strike resulted in a federal legal settlement in 1978 that improved the living conditions of about fifty families.

In building a career, Jean maintained her family, her proudest achievement, despite the continuing mental illness of her husband and the economic strain of raising two sons on a single income. She died as the result of an assault by her husband who was suffering from altered behavior that led to his psychosis which was caused by a year of unsuccessful medication adjustments. But despite her tragic death, her legacy, the work she did on behalf of others, and her strong, loving family remains intact. Her sons regularly visit her husband, who is healthy once again. And her desire for a more just world lives on with them.

Jean is survived by her husband Gerry Wassenaar, her son Michael and daughter-in-law Johnine Ornelas; her son Matthew and daughter-in-law Ellen, and her grandson David Wassenaar; her sisters Janet Atkinson and Krista Baas; and her brothers Gregg Nelson, Bruce Nelson and Kyle Nelson.

Respectfully Submitted,
Michael Wassenaar and Nanette Connor