

Law Without Barney

Engagement with everything and everyone, that was Barney's life-style. He had an inexhaustible memory for dates, knew everyone's birthday and had a timeline recall for each day's major historical events. He built issues of life and death into law, criminal and civil, in empathetic terms.

The mornings after the Sue Rodriguez and the Robert Latimer judgments made him wonder about the Supreme Court of Canada. Every reported marijuana bust produced a whimsical look: why bother, when there were victim-related crimes to prosecute? His courses were always over-subscribed, filled with criminal law topics chosen to make legal and moral mischief in student minds. Barney made law and non-violence matter at Robson Hall. His passions extended to military history, making himself an authority on the Nuremberg war-crimes trials and an enthusiast who devoted his final days to getting his last book off to the publishers.

Warriors Seven: Seven American Commanders, Seven Wars, and the Irony of Battle memorialises his marvelous skills as a story-teller, as a Canadian-American scholar of the first-rank, and as a compassionate observer of the madness and courage of war.

He came to our law school in 1969 from a family of practicing lawyers, with a history degree from Trinity College, a law degree from the University of Connecticut (1964) and his LL.M. from New York University (1967). Barney's journalistic skills were first applied in South Africa, where he was sent packing months later by the white apartheid regime. He gave thirty-seven years of service to Robson Hall students. Widely published in North American scholarly journals, his special research interest made him the coordinating editor of the basic textbook on *Canadian Medical Law* (3rd ed., 2003), along with colleagues John Irvine and Philip Osborne.

Barney taught virtually every member of the current Manitoba bench and bar. He was a constructive, respected colleague across university disciplines and departments. Life goes on but law without Barney will be less lively, inside and outside Robson Hall. He took inspiration daily from family, from Carla his wife, from his children, Liora, Miriam, and Robert. Barney lives on in the lives of countless friends, students, colleagues and readers, making for us a difference and a model.

