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Tribute to Peter C. Maxfield

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TRIBUTE TO PETER C. MAXFIELD

Harvey Gelb

What a fine example Peter C. Maxfield set for me, a new professor, when I came to the University of Wyoming College of Law in 1979. In attempting to help me improve as an instructor, he allowed me to observe his class and to read his student evaluations. He was generous in conversing with me about teaching, scholarship, and other academic matters. In short, Pete taught me a great deal about being a professor. He did not simply advocate fine teaching, he practiced it. Furthermore, he did not merely advocate the production of scholarship by others—he was a prodigious producer of such scholarship himself.

Peter's outstanding intellectual capacity, high energy, and dedication were demonstrated to me by the great versatility of his teaching and scholarship. To begin with, he taught extensively in the Federal Income Tax area,

itself a daunting task. A popular professor, he also taught courses in Federal Indian Law, Oil and Gas Law, Property, and Legal Research and Writing. His publications demonstrate versatility as well, with books in the Tax and Indian Law fields, as well as other writings on a variety of topics. Peter was invited frequently to give scholarly and professional talks, and his achievements brought significant recognition from other law schools. For instance, he was named Raymond F. Rice Distinguished Professor at the University of Kansas School of Law in 1984 and Chapman Distinguished Visiting Professor, University of Tulsa College of Law in 1987.

When I arrived at the College of Law, Peter had just become Dean and he wanted the College to achieve a greater excellence than it already possessed. He once joked that he wanted us to be a law school that the football team could be proud of. It was clear that he valued excellence in both teaching and scholarship, and his actions as Dean reflected those values. He worked hard to fill faculty vacancies with outstanding persons. He also worked to provide summer research grants for faculty and other incentives for meritorious performance as teachers and scholars. He initiated and successfully guided the efforts of our College of Law to attain an Order of the Coif chapter. Now each year a number of our students with high academic achievement attain the prestige of Coif membership. He enjoyed the respect of university administration officials and colleagues in various parts of the university. He had a willingness to bring speakers to campus to enrich our lives and stimulate our thoughts. It is my belief that our College of Law, already a fine one, became even better during his Deanship.

What a good citizen Peter Maxfield has been! He has served in the Wyoming State Senate and as Wyoming State Planning Coordinator and Special Assistant to the Governor of Wyoming. It can only be hoped that he will be blessed with the years to continue to serve our society with his intelligence, his energy, and his humanitarian outlook.

I enjoyed the time I spent with Peter Maxfield. It was a pleasure to discuss a wide variety of subjects with him. He was well informed, interested, and full of energy. He cared about the needs of others in various parts of the globe. We even spent a little time discussing my Boston Celtics and going to Denver to see them play. It is a great pleasure for me to think of Peter as a friend and to pay tribute to him as a teacher, scholar, Dean, citizen, and humanitarian.

Career Highlights

EDUCATION

LL.M. 1968, Harvard University

J.D. cum laude, 1966, University of Denver

A.B. classical cum laude, 1963, Regis College

EMPLOYMENT

Professor of Law, University of Wyoming College of Law, 1969-1996

Subjects taught: Federal Income Taxation of Natural Resources Transactions, Federal Income Taxation of Individuals, Federal Income Taxation of Corporations and Partnerships, Federal Indian Law, Oil and Gas, Property, Legal Research and Writing

Dean, University of Wyoming College of Law, 1979-1987

Associate, Hindry, Erickson, and Meyer, Denver, Colorado, 1968-1969

Trial Attorney, United States Department of Justice Honor Program, 1966-1967

PUBLIC SERVICE

Member, Wyoming State Senate, 1993-1997

Democratic Nominee from Wyoming for the United States House of Representatives, 1996, 1990

Member, Wyoming Environmental Quality Council, 1991-1993

Special Assistant to the Governor of Wyoming, 1989-1990

Wyoming State Planning Coordinator, 1988-1989

PUBLICATIONS

Oliphant v. Suquamish Tribe, The Whole is Greater than the Sum of the Parts, 19 J. CONTEMP. L. 391 (1993)

Federal Indian Law (under contract with West Publishing Company)

The Federal Income Taxation of Oil and Gas and Natural Resources Transactions, with James L. Houghton and James R. Gaar (Foundation Press, 1990)

Tribal Regulation of Indian Mineral Development, 64 OR. L. REV. 49 (1983)

Federal Income Taxation of Geothermal Resources, 14 NAT. RESOURCES LAW. 687 (1982)

Taxation of Mining Operations, with James L. Houghton and Robert Allen (since 1995) (Mathew Bender & Co. 1981), with annual supplements since 1981

Taxation of Geothermal Operations, 8 LAND & WATER L. REV. 217 (1977)

Natural Resources Law on American Indian Lands, with F.J. Trelease and M.F. Dieterich (Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation, 1977), cited in *Merrion v. Jicarilla Apache Tribe*, 455 U.S. 130 (1982)

Economic Interest—Some Further Thoughts, 51 N.D. L. REV. 457 (1974)

Bonus, Delay Rental, and Minimum Royalty—Treatment and Distinctions for Tax Purposes, 7 LAND & WATER L. REV. 343 (1973), reprinted in 10 PUB. LAND RESOURCES DIG. 191 (1973)

The Income Taxation of Mining Operations (Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation, 1973, 1975, 1976)

Cases and Materials on the Federal Income Taxation of Natural Resources Transactions, with Harold S. Bloomenthal (mimeo: 1971, 1973, 1976, 1981, 1984)

HONORS

Visiting Professorships: University of Utah, 1992; University of Tulsa, 1987; University of Kansas, 1984; University of New Mexico, 1972

Delta Theta Phi National Outstanding Professor, 1990

Morter Board University Outstanding Faculty Award, 1980

Outstanding Law School Teacher of the Year, 1974

Trustee, Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation, 1980-1996