Edward J. Imwinkelreid

Exactly one week after Fritz passed away, I took home the latest Federal Supplement advance sheet. (For the benefit of the few people in the audience who are neither lawyers nor law students, an advance sheet is a volume including new court decisions.) I was browsing through the advance sheet when I came across Judge Jack Weinstein's decision in *Simon v. Philip Morris, Inc.*¹ The thing that initially caught my eye was a citation to one of Dean Borchers' articles. However, as soon as I saw that citation, another thought flashed through my mind: If Pat was there, Fritz was probably there as well. I turned a page and found a citation to one of Fritz's articles. I kept turning the pages. I discovered another citation to Fritz. And another. And another. Judge Weinstein is one of the most respected American jurists, and seeing the high regard which he obviously had for Fritz brought a smile to my face.

As I caught myself smiling, I thought of something that Barbara had said. Fritz had given her instructions for this memorial service. Fritz told her explicitly that he did not want this to be a sad sack affair. He didn't want us dwelling on his death. Rather, he instructed us to focus on the parts of his life that we would enjoy recalling today. It's easy to comply with that instruction. There are so many parts of Fritz's life that have left us with good memories. We all will remember him as an inspired teacher and a brilliant scholar, but there is so much more.

We can remember how Fritz pushed and prodded us to make King Hall a better law school. Fritz had incredibly demanding personal standards, and he challenged us to follow his example. I was always amazed at how many of his colleagues' articles he had read. My office is immediately across the hallway from Fritz's. I would often hear him talking to colleagues to discuss their latest article or praise their latest presentation at a conference.

We can also remember how protective Fritz was of King Hall. If he thought that there had been an unfair criticism of the school, he was the first to take offense and the first to rush into battle to defend the school's

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¹ 124 F.Supp.2d 46 (E.D. N.Y. 2000).

reputation. Fritz was proud to be a member of this faculty.

Finally and most importantly, we can remember what an honest, candid person Fritz was. You never had to guess what Fritz thought. He said what he meant, and he meant what he said.

Fritz left us vivid images as well as all those good memories:

- ...an image of Fritz in the hallway, encouraging a young colleague to undertake a new project.
- ...an image of Fritz at a faculty meeting, angry at some slight to the law school and ready to lead the charge against the offender.
- ...and best of all, images of Fritz in his office with a student—a new Pat Borchers. Holding court with the student, laughing loudly, and without mincing any words explaining to the student why some court's recent decision was "absolutely stupid." Shakespeare wrote that to be a thoroughly honest, straightforward person "is to be one man picked out of ten thousand." Fritz was that man. It was our privilege to know him, and that privilege should give all of us ample reason to smile even today.

² WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE, HAMLET, act 2, sc. 2, 179 (G. Blakemore Evans, ed., Houghton Mifflin 1974) (1600).