

*Edward J. Imwinkelreid**

I did not have the good fortune of serving on the U.C. Davis faculty before Dan Dykstra retired. I joined the faculty in the first semester of the 1985-86 academic year. Dan retired the prior semester. Nevertheless, I came to know Dan fairly well.

To begin with, when I interviewed at the school, Dan was my host for dinner. Rather than taking me out to a local restaurant, Dan and his wife, Lily, invited me into their house. They were a gracious host and hostess. Rather than grilling me over dinner, they chatted about their family and inquired about mine.

Later, although he had retired, Dan frequently visited the law school. In some semesters, the Dean persuaded Dan to teach for us. (Even in retirement, Dan was in great demand as a teacher. One of my former professors had become the dean at Hawaii, and he had the good sense to give Dan essentially a standing invitation to teach there.) However, even when Dan was not teaching at U.C. Davis, he was often spotted in the hallways. Typically, when I passed him in a hallway, he would ask, "How's the family?" When he learned that my wife, Cindy, and I had convinced our parents to move to Davis, Dan asked about them and how they were adjusting to their new hometown.

I sometimes bumped into Dan outside the law school. We attended the same church, and we often saw Dan and Lily there. When we did, they always wanted to know what our kids were up to.

U.C. Davis is an exceptional law school. I have taught at several institutions, and U.C. Davis has a unique sense of community and family. That should come as no surprise to anyone who knew Dan Dykstra. Dan was a wonderful human being who cared intensely about his own family and worked hard to create that sense at the law school. We all are the direct beneficiaries of the special atmosphere at U.C. Davis. In no small part that atmosphere exists because Dan Dykstra once graced this faculty. Thanks to Dan, the family is doing very well.

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