

A TRIBUTE TO JUDGE DANIEL J. MOORE

*Frank J. Vecchione**

I first met Dan Moore in 1963. He was teaching my class in taxation at Seton Hall Law School. Although he looked more like an offensive lineman for the New York Giants, it soon became evident that he was an excellent teacher, as well as being gentle, witty and compassionate.

Before the end of each school year, he and his wife, Florence, would host a cocktail party for his evening students on a Sunday afternoon at their Short Hills home. He thought the "Nightskis," as he called us, deserved this celebration for all of their long hours and hard work.

Throughout his career, Dan Moore was a brilliant lawyer, teacher and judge. His expertise in the fields of taxation, accounting and bankruptcy was recognized and renowned. However, the traits which made him unique were his warmth, humor and caring.

His colleague, friend and protege, Bankruptcy Judge Stephen A. Stripp, described him best— "He was a great soul; he was about as loving a person as you could find." Chief Bankruptcy Judge, William H. Gindin, added— "He defined the word 'compassion;' he felt deeply for the people to be served."

A dedicated and skillful lawyer who worked prodigious hours, Dan's grateful clients held him in the highest regard. They suffered a real sense of loss when he left the practice to become a judge. They turned out in large numbers to attend his swearing-in.

Dan was appointed to the Bankruptcy Court bench in 1987. He continued to work long hours and always found Court time for the many emergent matters which arise in every Chapter 11 case. His Court was available, whether it was 7 o'clock at night or Saturday. Through it all, he always cut the tension with his wonderful sense of humor.

Judge Moore never lost touch with the working man or woman. Although his calendar included many large Chapter 11 reorganizations, he always made sure that the individual debtors who filed Chapter 7 or Chapter 13 petitions left his court with

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their dignity intact. He also went out of his way to inquire into and to look after the well-being of courthouse personnel.

One award that Dan cherished came in 1989 when this Law School honored him as its Distinguished Alumnus for that year. Dan Moore gave a lifetime of dedicated service to Seton Hall Law School. It is especially fitting that this publication should memorialize his many generous contributions to the advancement of the practice of law.