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FORREST B. WEINBERG— A TRIBUTE

Wilton S. Sogg*

With Forrest's death, I lost one who was at the same time a friend, a professional colleague, an academic colleague, and a fellow lover of horses and the outdoors. Over the years, Forrest had been my adversary, my lawyer, my teacher, my partner, my colleague on the faculty of Cleveland-Marshall law school, and my companion on horseback on the trails and in the fields.

When I began practice, Forrest was held up to me as a mature lawyer whose scholarly skills, professional integrity, and pragmatic business instincts I should emulate. Over the years, as our friendship grew, and as my professional experience matured, I came to recognize that Forrest was that rare individual who combined the pragmatic qualities of a "can-do lawyer" with the scholar's love of the law. He felt a teacher's exhilaration from sharing what he knew with his students while at the same time sharpening his own skills and learning from them. It is the unusual individual who feels at home in both the cauldron of practice and the sometimes detached "ivory tower" world of academia.

Forrest was able to command the respect and admiration of his fellow professionals in the bar, and at the same time engender the awe and affection of his students. As I watched his professional career unfold, each of these two aspects seemed to nurture one another as they grew, in intertwined fashion, to allow him to successfully achieve his long sought dream of full-time academic commitment with a practice oriented focus. Each of these aspects of his life were able to command his deepest commitment and separate accomplishment, yet the two seemed to blend, almost magically, in each of his chosen endeavors.

Adversaries frequently saw Forrest as skilled, tough and demanding in seeking what was right for his clients and also what was right for the profession. I was privileged to see him as a warm and caring friend as well. When we rode side by side through the Chagrin Valley on quiet dewy mornings, on fresh and excited horses, there was none who was more open, warm, caring, and giving of himself.

In Forrest's death the loss is one to the community, the profession, the academic community, and to those of us individually who were privileged to call him a friend.

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