In Memorium: Professor Richard E. Walck

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IN MEMORIAM

PROFESSOR RICHARD E. WALCK
1918-1992

Richard E. Walck joined the Faculty of the Marshall-Wythe School of Law of the College of William and Mary in 1970, following a career of distinguished service to his country as an officer in the Judge Advocate General’s Corps of the United States Air Force. Over the course of fourteen years, ending with his retirement as Professor of Law Emeritus in 1984, Professor Walck, affectionately known as “the Colonel,” served this institution with dedication and devotion.

Professor Walck was a wonderful instructor, teaching courses in Torts, Criminal Law, International Law, Agency, International Business Transactions, and Legal Profession. He sought to instill in his students a love for the law and a commitment to serve mankind. He stressed professionalism, and by word and demeanor he taught that a meaningful life could embrace commitment and service, agreeable social interchange and adventure, and that hard work, dedication, and good fun are not incompatible endeavors and values.

While at Marshall-Wythe, Professor Walck served for a number of years as chairman of the College’s Discipline Committee, directed the Law School’s postconviction assistance program, represented the School on the Joint Committee on Continuing Legal Education, and served as Associate Dean for Administration. On his own initiative, he assumed the duties of morale officer, and with the assistance and enthusiastic cooperation of his wife, Becky, sponsored and encouraged social gatherings and events for the Faculty and student body.

Professor Walck was a keen observer of the human condition. He drew from his experiences sources of humor and parables of wisdom which he shared as a skilled storyteller. Large numbers of his students regarded him not only as a mentor, but as a friend. In his dealings with others he was always a gentleman—cordial, respectful, and thoughtful. He enriched this institution with humor, love, and warmth. His joy in life was infectious.

Professor Walck died September 19, 1992. The students and the Faculty of the Marshall-Wythe School of Law acknowledge our sadness in the loss of a good friend, esteemed colleague, and able teacher and administrator. His presence and contributions to this institution will be dearly missed.