

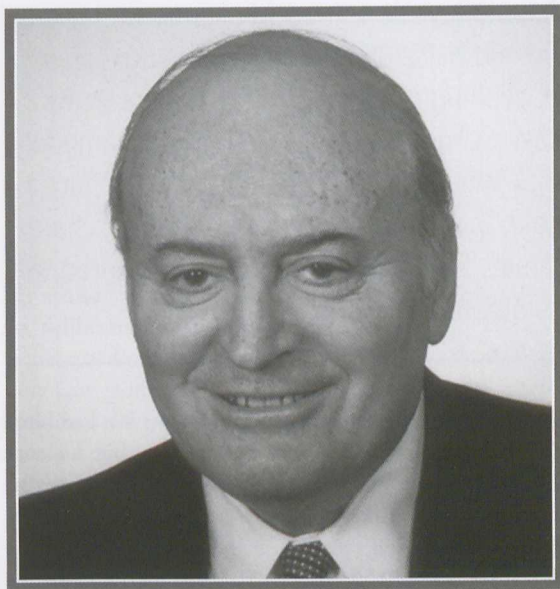
Summer 2012

In Memoriam: Hon. Roger J. Miner '56 Senior United States Circuit Judge, Trustee Emeritus, and Former Adjunct Professor of Law, New York Law School

New York Law School

Hon. Roger J. Miner '56

Senior United States Circuit Judge, Trustee Emeritus, and Former Adjunct Professor of Law, New York Law School



The New York Law School community mourns the passing of distinguished alumnus Hon. Roger J. Miner '56, who died at his home in Greenport, New York, on February 18, 2012. Judge Miner was a widely respected senior judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit whose illustrious career earned him mentions as a possible nominee for the U.S. Supreme Court.

After graduating *cum laude* from New York Law School, where he was the first Managing Editor of the *Law Review*, Judge Miner was admitted to practice in New York and in the United States Court of Military Appeals. He served on active military duty from 1956 to 1959, and was awarded the Commendation Ribbon with Metal Pendant for his work on the revision of the *Manual for Courts-Martial*. He later served with the Army Reserve and was discharged in 1964 with the rank of captain in the Judge Advocate General's Corps. He was admitted to the Bar of the Republic of Korea in 1958, a rare honor for an American.

In 1959, Judge Miner joined his father, Abram Miner '26, in private practice in Hudson, New York. He was later named Corporation Counsel for the City of Hudson and served as the Assistant District Attorney for Columbia County. He was the Columbia County District Attorney from 1968 to 1975.

In 1976, at the age of 41, Judge Miner became one of the youngest justices of the New York State Supreme Court, serving in the Third Judicial District. President Ronald Reagan appointed him to the United States District Court for the Northern District of New York in 1981 and to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit in 1985. He assumed senior status in the Second Circuit in 1997. A prolific writer, Judge Miner authored more than 700 published appellate opinions and sat on Second Circuit panels in well over 2,000 matters. He also wrote more than 30 law journal and law review articles, covering a broad range of topics.

Judge Miner's deep commitment to New York Law School was wide-ranging. He taught at the Law School as an adjunct professor from 1986 to 1996, and also served on the Board of Trustees. He received an honorary degree from the Law School in 1989, as well as the Distinguished Alumnus Award from the Alumni Association. In 1988, Judge Miner and his family established the Abram Miner Scholarship Fund to honor his father. In 2003, the Law School honored Judge Miner at a gala event that included the unveiling of a portrait of him and the Law School's acceptance of the donation of his papers. Judge Miner was posthumously awarded the President's Medal of Honor, the Law School's highest honor, at Commencement in 2012.

Judge Miner mentored dozens of former law clerks, many of whom are NYLS alumni. In formal remarks appearing in the February 28, 2012 *Congressional Record*, New York Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, one of Judge Miner's former clerks, remembered him as a "truly brilliant and dedicated jurist who served New York and the nation as a public servant his entire life. . . . He inspired me with his integrity, fairness, and great love of public service. I will always remember his generosity, kindness, and great intellect that taught me so much."

The Law School community will remember Judge Miner for his courage, wisdom, and dedicated service to the law. We extend our condolences to his wife, Jacqueline, and his sons, brother, and grandchildren. **F**