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NEW YORK LAW SCHOOL

Eighty-sixth Commencement Exercises

June 4, 1978



AVERY FISHER HALL Lincoln Center New York, New York

Eighty-sixth Commencement Exercises

June 4, 1978

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J.S. Bach

"Choral Number 3 in A minor"

C. Franck

"Variations de Concert"

J. Bonnet

Christopher C. Donges Organist

PROCESSIONAL*

"Pomp and Circumstance No. 1, op.39"

E. Elgar

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"Toccata from The Fifth Symphony"

C.M. Widor

^{*}The audience is requested to remain seated during the Processional and Recessional.

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SAMUEL J. TILDEN CHAPTER OF PHI ALPHA DELTA FRATERNITY

Award for Fraternity Service Helena Anne Yuhas

GRIFFIN B. BELL

Attorney, jurist, administrator, and public servant, Griffin B. Bell, the seventy-second Attorney General of the United States, is destined to make significant contributions to the betterment of this great land.

A native of Americus, Georgia, Judge Bell received his LL.B. degree cum laude from Mercer University Law School in Macon, Georgia. He also received the Order of the Coif from Vanderbilt Law School and honorary degrees from Mercer University and Morris Brown College.

During World War II, Judge Bell served his country with distinction from 1941 until 1946 in the United States Army attaining the rank of Major. Admitted to the Georgia Bar in 1947, Judge Bell began the practice of law in 1948 with the Savannah firm of Lawton & Cunningham. From 1952 until 1953, he was a member of the firm of Maddox & Bell in Rome, Georgia; he subsequently became the managing partner of the firm of King & Spaulding, a position he held until 1961. As the honorary Chief of Staff to former Georgia Governor, Ernest Vandiver, he served the citizens of Georgia from 1959 until 1961.

Appointed by President John F. Kennedy in October, 1961, to the Court of Appeals, Fifth Judicial Circuit, Judge Bell remained on the bench until 1976. Throughout his distinguished tenure in office, he was recognized as a humane and learned advocate of the public good. During this period of judicial service, he was Chairman of the Atlanta Commission on Crime and Juvenile Delinquency from 1965 until 1966; the Committee on Innovation and Development of the Federal Judicial Center in Washington, D.C. from 1968 until 1970; the Board of Deacons of the Second Ponce de Leon Baptist Church; and recently as Chairman of the American Bar Association's Division of Judicial Administration.

His academic and professional memberships include the American Law Institute; the Commission on Standards of Judicial Administration of the American Bar Association from 1971 to the present; the Board of Directors of the Federal Judicial Center from 1973 to 1976; and the Visiting Committee of Vanderbilt University Law School. He is also a trustee of Mercer University and the Institute for Continuing Legal Education of Georgia.

On December 20, 1976, he was nominated by President Jimmy Carter for the position of Attorney General of the United States. He was confirmed by the United States Senate on January 25, 1977, and assumed his present responsibilities on January 26, 1977.

In recognition of these outstanding contributions as an eminent jurist, distinguished attorney, and dedicated public servant, the Trustees of New York Law School are pleased and honored to confer upon Griffin B. Bell the degree of Doctor of Laws honoris causa with all the rights, privileges and honors thereunto pertaining.

ERWIN N. GRISWOLD

Attorney, educator, author, and public servant, the multifaceted genius of ERWIN GRISWOLD has influenced the lives of several generations of the legal community and the American public during his distinguished career. Born in East Cleveland, Ohio he received his undergraduate education at Oberlin College where he earned both a Bachelor of Arts degree and a Master of Arts degree in 1925; he received his legal education at Harvard Law School earning a Bachelor of Laws degree in 1928 and Doctor of Juridical Science degree in 1929.

Mr. Griswold was admitted to the Ohio bar in 1929 and began the practice of law with the firm of Griswold, Green, Palmer & Hadden in Cleveland, Ohio. From 1929 until 1934, he served as a special assistant to the Attorney General.

The year 1934 beckoned a return to his Harvard heritage and the beginning of an unparalleled career in legal education in the twentieth century. Admitted to the Massachusetts Bar in 1935, he served one year as an assistant professor; he was promoted to professor of law in 1936, a position which he held until 1946 when he was designated Dean of Harvard Law School and Charles Stebbins Fairchild Professor of Law.

In 1950 he was appointed Langdell Professor of Law. His tenure as Dean of Harvard Law School for 21 years stands as an unchallenged hallmark of academic excellence worldwide. Indeed, his contributions to the betterment of the human condition have caused 23 colleges and universities to convey upon him their honorary degrees.

In 1967, the President of the United States called upon Mr. Griswold to resume his interrupted career as a public servant as Solicitor General of the United States, a post which he held until 1973.

A highly respected author, Mr. Griswold has written numerous scholarey texts and widely adopted casebooks.

During his lifetime Mr. Griswold has held many prestigious posts including the Alien Enemy Hearing Board for Massachusetts from 1941 until 1945, a consulting expert to the United States Treasury Department in 1942; and a member of the United States Civil Rights Commission from 1961 until 1967. He has served as a Trustee for Oberlin College from 1942 to 1949; for the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association from 1946 to 1949; for the Harvard Law Review Association from 1938 to 1967; as President of the American Bar Foundation, and President of the Association of American Law Schools from 1957 to 1958. He is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers.

Erwin Griswold, in recognition of your outstanding and distinguished record of spirited leadership and your steadfast devotion to excellence, and by authority of the Board of Trustees, New York Law School is proud to confer upon you the degree of Doctor of Laws *honoris causa* with all the rights, privileges and honors thereunto pertaining.

DAMON J. KEITH

Each generation has produced gifted persons of exceptional vigor and foresight who have excelled in their ability to protect, to preserve, and to faithfully interpret the constitution of this great land. A gifted and dynamic jurist, Damon Keith is destined to continue to make significant contributions to the legal profession and to the equal administration of justice.

Born July 4, 1922, in Detroit, Michigan, Judge Keith worked his way through West Virginia State College. He earned his Bachelor of Laws degree from Howard University Law School and a Master of Laws from Wayne State University. Judge Keith is married to Dr. Rachel Boone Keith, a prominent physician; they have three daughters.

Judge Keith was nominated by President Jimmy Carter on September 28, 1977, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. He was confirmed by the Senate on October 21, 1977, and sworn in as Judge for the Sixth Circuit on November 22, 1977. Prior to his appointment to the Court of Appeals, Judge Keith served as a United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan. He was appointed in 1967 by the late President Lyndon B. Johnson, and in December, 1975, he became Chief Judge of the District Court. Judge Keith was formerly senior partner in the Detroit law firm of Keith, Conyers, Anderson, Brown & Wahls, and member of the Wayne County Board of Supervisors. He is a former Commissioner of the State Bar of Michigan, appointed by the State Supreme Court.

During his ten-year tenure as a federal district court judge, Judge Keith has been responsible for a number of landmark decisions, in particular the White Panther Wiretap Decision in 1971 which was unanimously affirmed by the United States Supreme Court and also known as the Keith Decision, and the Pontiac School Decision in 1970. Indeed, it is little wonder that Judge Keith was elected by his fellow district judges of the Sixth Circuit to represent the Sixth Circuit at the 1975 Judicial Conference of the United States. On January 3, 1976, Chief Justice Warren Burger, appointed him to serve on the Committee for the Administration of the Federal Probation System.

The professional and civic awards accorded Judge Keith are far too numerous to be detailed today, and none demonstrate with more complete strokes the parameters of his impact upon his colleagues and his fellow citizens than the following three. In 1974 the Michigan Trial Lawyers Association presented him with a special award as an outstanding trial judge. That same year he also received the highly coveted Spingarn Medal, the highest honor of the N.A.A.C.P. Most recently, the Detroit Board of Education named a school, The Damon J. Keith Middle School, in his honor.

Judge Keith in recognition of your brilliant mastery of the law, of your tireless energy as a dynamic jurist, and for your beneficial influence upon the laws throughout the nation, the Trustees of New York Law School are pleased and honored to confer upon you the degree of Doctor of Laws honoris causa with all the rights, privileges and honors thereunto pertaining.

EMANUEL RACKMAN

International scholar, gifted teacher, attorney, author and rabbi, the career of Emanuel Rackman is intricately interwoven in the rich tapestry which embellishes the lives of all those who reside in this vast metropolis. Born in Albany, New York, Rabbi Rackman received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Columbia College in 1931. At that time, he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. In 1933 he received a Bachelor of Laws degree from Columbia Law School quickly followed in 1935 by the degree of Rabbi from Yeshiva University. In 1953 he received a Ph.D. from Columbia University in the Department of Public Law. His dissertation was entitled, "The Making of the Israeli Constitution." In 1961 he received an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Yeshiva University.

During World War II, Rabbi Rackman taught thousands of chaplains and their assistants at the ASF Chaplain School and the AAF Chaplain's Training Conference. In 1946 he was military aide to the European Theatre Commander's Special Advisor on Jewish affairs regarding the problems of displaced persons. Rabbi Rackman is a Past President of the Association of Jewish Chaplains of the Armed Forces of the United States and holds the rank of Colonel in the United States Air Force Reserve. He was awarded the United States Army Commendation Ribbon with one Oak Leaf Cluster. Rabbi Rackman also serves as the distinguished Chairman on Jewish Chaplaincy of the National Jewish Welfare Board.

A well known author, Rabbi Rackman has written *Israel's Emerging Constitution*, *One Man's Judaism*, and many essays in numerous scholarly and lay journals including "Memorah Journal," "Commentary," "Judaism," "Tradition," "Orthodox Jewish Life," and "Young Israel Viewpoint." A highly respected scholar and gifted teacher, Rabbi Rackman served as Provost of Yeshiva University from 1962 to 1970, Professor of Political Philosophy and Jurisprudence at Yeshiva University from 1947 to 1970, and Professor of Jewish Studies and consultant to the Chancellor of the City University of New York on Jewish Studies since 1970. Rabbi Rackman introduced the first course on Jewish Law ever taught at a non-sectarian Law School at New York Law School in 1976. Most recently he accepted the prestigious Presidency of Bar-Ilan University in Israel.

As a Rabbi, Emanuel Rackman is without peer. From 1967 to 1977 he served as the beloved Rabbi of the Fifth Avenue Synagogue in New York City. To his rabinical colleagues, he has been a source of inspiration and uncompromising strength. From 1955 until 1957 he was President of the New York Board of Rabbis; from 1958 until 1960 he was President of the Rabbinical Council of America. Formerly, he was Vice President of the Religious Zionists of America, and currently he serves as Chairman of its Executive Committee.

President Rackman, in view of your truly distinguished service to the betterment of humankind regardless of national boundaries and by authority of the Board of Trustees, New York Law School is proud to confer upon you the degree of Doctor of Laws honoris causa with all the rights, privileges and honors thereunto pertaining.

NOVEMBER 17, 1977

FOURTH ANNUAL WALTER M. JEFFORDS, JR., DISTINGUISHED VISITING LECTURESHIP

DENNIS DECONCINI

Attorney, administrator, civil servant, and dynamic legislator, the accomplishments of Senator Dennis DeConcini are legion in number. A native of Arizona, Senator DeConcini is a member of a distinguished Arizona family that has long been prominent in government, the legal profession and business. Educated in Tucson and Phoenix public schools, he graduated in 1959 from the University of Arizona at Tucson with a Bachelor of Arts degree. Shortly thereafter he was commissioned Second Lieutenant in the Adjutant General's Corps.

Senator DeConcini obtained his law degree from the University of Arizona College of Law in 1963 whereupon he entered the private practice of law with his brother and his father, a former Arizona Attorney General and a former Justice of the Arizona Supreme Court. Concurrently, Senator DeConcini served in the Judge Advocate General Corps of the United States Army Reserve from December, 1964 until May, 1967 when he was honorably discharged.

From 1968 to 1973 he was a member of the law firm of DeConcini and McDonald. Until his election to the United States Senate in 1976, Senator DeConcini was active in the business community as a director of a state-wide savings and loan association, as well as an officer in several DeConcini family business ventures.

He served as Special Counsel for the Governor of Arizona from January through September of 1965 and as Administrative Assistant from September 1965 until January 1967. In November 1972, Senator DeConcini was elected Pima County Attorney and commenced a four-year term of office on January 1, 1973. Governor Raul Castro appointed him Administrator of the Arizona Drug Control District in July 1975.

During his tenure as Pima County Attorney, Senator DeConcini's programs to assist consumers; to deal fairly with first-time offenders by establishing an adult diversion program; to protect the environment by having the first full-time environmental attorney in a county prosecutor's office; and to wipe out the flow of hard drugs brought well-merited recognition to his office. The National District Attorneys Association named it the model office of its size in the country for implementation of standards and goals. He was elected President of the Arizona County Attorneys and Sheriffs Association in 1976, and was awarded the County Attorney of the Year award for 1975.

The Senator resigned from his post as Pima County Attorney in 1976 to campaign for the United States Senate seat of retiring Senator Paul Fannin. As a freshman Senator, he received notable appointments to both the Appropriations and Judiciary Committees and the Special Committee on Aging.

Senator Dennis DeConcini, in view of your distinguished achievements in the field of government in general and as protector of the environment and the less privileged in particular, by authority of the Board of Trustees, New York Law School is proud to confer upon you the degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa, with all the rights, privileges and honors thereunto appertaining.

MAY 23, 1978

FIFTH ANNUAL WALTER M. JEFFORDS, JR. DISTINGUISHED VISITING LECTURESHIP GERALD R. FORD

We are honored upon this occasion by the presence of the thirty-eighth President of the United States. Like all his greatest predecessors, Gerald Ford is a direct man of monumental strength, wisdom, humanity, and decency – as unshakable and formidable in public service and in dedication to the common interest as upon the football field.

From the halls and playing fields of Michigan and Yale Gerald Ford moved, after four years in the United States Navy, to the halls and battle-fields of the United States Congress, where for twenty-five years he served with high distinction and effectiveness, as a Member of the House of Representatives and ultimately as its Minority Leader. His influence and leadership through multiple committees, commissions, and conventions became proverbial. Nominated to the Vice Presidency of our country at a time of confusion and peril, he accepted with humility, but with awareness of the challenge to come, and with confidence.

While President, like a modern Cato rooted deep in his native heath, Gerald Ford did what he had to do and did it well. When we reflect upon how we felt a few days before he assumed the Presidency and compare how we felt a few weeks later, we know how much our country owes this man. He restored our faith in our institutions and in ourselves and, with characteristic imperturbability, gave us all a model of greatness in time of crisis. Since leaving the Presidency he has continued indomitably, without regard for personal or political consequences, to fight for the preservation of our historic constitutional structures and for the maintenance of our country's responsibility and effective power in the inescapable world about us.

Gerald Ford is today, not the representative or legacy of a single party or segment of our community, but a much loved representative and champion of us all. History will increasingly note the immensity of his contribution. In widely shared appreciation, pride, and affection, the New York Law School is honored to confer upon him its highest award, the degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa.

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Paul William Stiehl

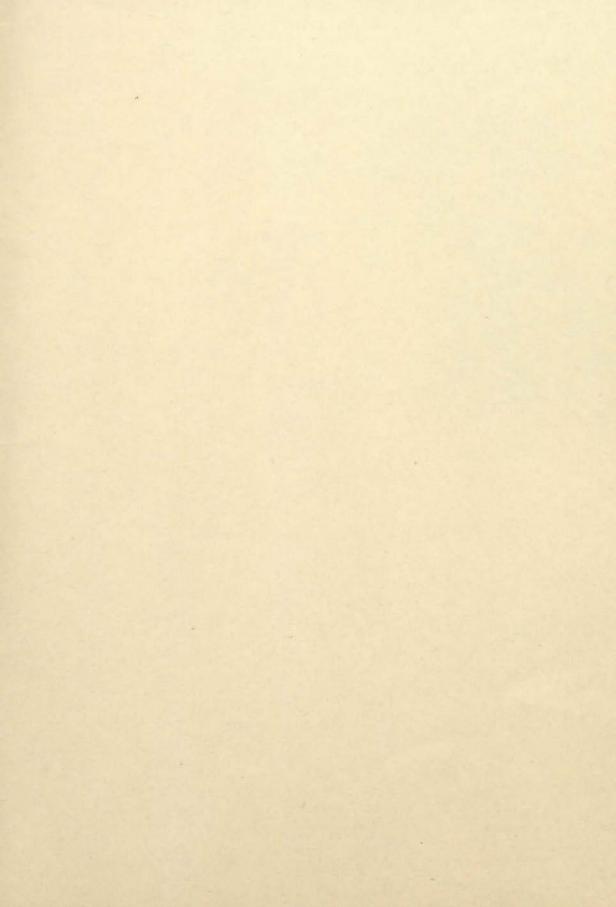
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