

1999

## Ted Mearns: Colleague, Teacher, Friend

Gerald Korngold  
*New York Law School*

Follow this and additional works at: [http://digitalcommons.nyls.edu/fac\\_articles\\_chapters](http://digitalcommons.nyls.edu/fac_articles_chapters)

 Part of the [International Law Commons](#), and the [Legal Profession Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

49 Case W. Res. L. Rev. [xvii] (1998-1999)

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Faculty Scholarship at DigitalCommons@NYLS. It has been accepted for inclusion in Articles & Chapters by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@NYLS.

# TED MEARNS: COLLEAGUE, TEACHER, FRIEND

*Gerald Korngold*<sup>†</sup>

In his twenty-four years at Case Western Reserve University, Professor Edward ("Ted") A. Mearns, Jr. was a source of inspiration and wisdom to his colleagues, students and members of the larger community. His dedication as a teacher and public citizen are remarkable.

Ted joined the faculty of our law school in 1974 and served the law school and University with great distinction. He was University Vice President for Undergraduate and Graduate Studies from 1984 to 1987 and Vice Dean of the School of Medicine from 1980 to 1984. Ted also held important leadership positions on our faculty, most recently serving as Director of the Frederick K. Cox International Law Center. During his years in legal education, Ted published numerous law review articles, including five pieces in the *Virginia Law Review*. Ted has also been an ambassador for American legal education, having taught at the University of Rome, University of Messina, University of Milan, Volgograd University, University of Rijeka (Croatia) and the University of Fribourg (Switzerland). Ted currently continues his engagement in international legal issues as Academic Dean of the World Law Institute.

Ted has benefited his colleagues and all who know him in other ways as well. We have all gained from his advice, drawing on his wisdom and experience with human behavior and institutions. His life as a public citizen and his contributions to the larger community provide us with an important role model. Among many activities, he served as consultant to the U.S. Commissioner of Education, consultant to the United States Commission on Civil Rights and as the Court-Appointed Expert for the United States District Court of the Northern District of Ohio in connection with the historical Cleveland School

---

<sup>†</sup> Dean and Everett D. and Eugenia S. McCurdy Professor of Law, Case Western Reserve University School of Law

desegregation suit. Ted's commitment to equal justice under the law is reflected in his many good works.

These are but a few of Ted's many accomplishments. But perhaps his greatest achievement is the profound impact that this excellent and committed teacher had on his many students during his years at Case Western Reserve University School of Law and the other schools at which he taught. Over the years, Ted guided his students in their search for knowledge and instilled in them a commitment to justice and the legal system. The written comments of his students on anonymous teaching evaluations for Ted's Constitutional Law class in the spring of 1997 (Ted's last semester at the law school) indicate the profound effect Ted had on his classes. A few of the many laudatory comments are illustrative. One student praised Ted's "knowledge, concern, and commitment to instilling competence and a sense of justice into his students." Another student wrote that "Ted's concern for the students is genuine," while another concluded: "I walked into your class knowing nothing about the Constitution and I walked out of class willing to discuss Constitutional Law with any scholar."

The students recognized that they were being taught by a special person. One student described Ted as an "incredible teacher, better person." Another student penned a comment (one of my favorites in twenty years of reading student evaluations of teachers): "one great dude!" Still another summed up: "thank you for your dedication this semester and during your entire career." Another simply wrote, "Godspeed."

Ted Mearns has had a profound impact on Case Western Reserve University School of Law and the larger community. We salute Ted Mearns—colleague, teacher, friend.