

1996

In Memory of a Wonderful Friend

John D. Feerick

Fordham University School of Law

Follow this and additional works at: <https://ir.lawnet.fordham.edu/flr>



Part of the [Law Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

John D. Feerick, *In Memory of a Wonderful Friend*, 64 Fordham L. Rev. 1280 (1996).

Available at: <https://ir.lawnet.fordham.edu/flr/vol64/iss4/1>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by FLASH: The Fordham Law Archive of Scholarship and History. It has been accepted for inclusion in Fordham Law Review by an authorized editor of FLASH: The Fordham Law Archive of Scholarship and History. For more information, please contact tmelnick@law.fordham.edu.

In Memory of a Wonderful Friend

Cover Page Footnote

Dean of Fordham Law School and member of the class of 1961.

DEDICATION
THE BOARD OF EDITORS
OF THE
FORDHAM LAW REVIEW

Dedicates this Issue to the Memory of

LOUIS STEIN
Class of 1926

LOUIS STEIN was a beloved member of the Fordham community with a lifelong commitment to public service. His extraordinary leadership and generosity enabled the Law School to develop one of the nation's most recognized and comprehensive programs in professional ethics and public interest law.

Mr. Stein graduated from Fordham Law School in 1926 and three years later became General Counsel of Food Fair Stores, Inc. In 1953, he was elected president of the company, and in 1966, he became Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer, a position which he held until his retirement in 1972. Thereafter, Mr. Stein devoted his efforts to various philanthropies, including the Stein Gerontological Institute in Miami, Florida.

For over forty years, Mr. Stein demonstrated a remarkable dedication to his alma mater. He created two major institutes: the Stein Institute of Law and Ethics and the Stein Center for Ethics and Public Interest Law, which sponsor national and regional conferences on various ethical issues involving the legal profession. He established the Stein Scholars Program, which enables specially selected students to work in public interest settings and undertake a distinctive course of study in legal ethics. He ensured the viability of the *Fordham Urban Law Journal* during its formative years by underwriting its early issues, endowed an Emergency Loan Program for students in need in the early 1970s, and provided support for the School's first student lounge at the Lincoln Center campus. In addition, he created one of the most prestigious awards in American legal education: the Fordham-Stein Prize, a national award that is presented annually to a lawyer whose work exemplifies outstanding standards of professional conduct, promotes the advancement of justice, and brings credit to the profession.

Mr. Stein's vision and support made legal ethics and public interest law a centerpiece of Fordham Law School, an achievement which was recognized last year when the *Fordham Law Review* committed to publish an annual Ethics Issue and to establish a position on the editorial board for an Annual Ethics Editor. In recognition of his tireless efforts to promote professional responsibility, the Law Review dedicates the March 1996 Ethics Issue to his memory.

IN MEMORY OF A WONDERFUL FRIEND

*John D. Feerick**

For Fordham Law School, Louis Stein was larger than life. He enjoyed an exceptional career in law and business, which reflected greatly on our School. But, what separated him from everyone else for us, was his dedication to our School. He gave enormously of his ideas and resources to make us stronger in areas involving ethical, moral, and service values. Those who knew him will never forget him and no honor our School would bestow, including placing his name on our building, could adequately express our affection and gratitude. When Louis Stein died on March 1, 1996, I lost a friend who deeply touched and inspired me. I will forever treasure his memory and the joy of knowing him. May God hold him in the hollow of his hand. I end by sharing a portion of the letter I sent to him on the occasion of his 90th birthday, January 29, 1996.

I extend to you the warmest congratulations on your Ninetieth Birthday from every part of our School. Our alumni, students, and faculty join me in expressing to you our best wishes for continued improvement in your health and all the blessings that are possible in the world. For me, it is a very special privilege and honor to extend these greetings on behalf of our School. No one has done more for the School than you and I have never had a closer friend than you, from whom I have learned and received so much.

Ninety years ago, when you were born, the Jesuit fathers had just launched our School, which was beginning its journey to find a place in the world for itself. Eighteen years later you arrived at Fordham Law School as a student, graduating in 1926, and then becoming a member of the bar, distinguishing yourself and your School by your excellence as a lawyer. You then became an executive for the Food Fair Corporation, rising to the top of the Company! As all of these accomplishments took place in your life, you and your beloved Bess raised three daughters who would add to your life sons-in-law, grandchildren, and eventually great-grandchildren.

As you met the challenges of the legal and business worlds and in the raising of a family, you gave enormously of your time, ideas, and resources to institutions and communities that meant a great deal to you. You included us as one of those institutions, helping us in more ways than I can possibly recount. You made suggestions of new programs, supported initiatives the School wanted to take, and poured yourself out in generosity and concern. Along the way you touched us by your gentleness, kindness, and friendship. You gave us the benefit of your experience, judgment, and wisdom, showing us what we could be as a School. You made things happen like no other graduate before you. Today, our School displays your name outside the building so that the world will know the name of a person we cherish, esteem, and love.

* Dean of Fordham Law School and member of the class of 1961.