

July 2015

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Recommended Citation

(1985) "Dedication: Albert S. Rakas," *Akron Law Review*: Vol. 18 : Iss. 4 , Article 1.

Available at: <https://ideaexchange.uakron.edu/akronlawreview/vol18/iss4/1>

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DEDICATION: ALBERT S. RAKAS

This issue of *The Akron Law Review* is dedicated to Albert S. Rakas, Professor Emeritus of Law, who retired on February 28, 1985, after fourteen years with the Akron University School of Law where he served as Associate Dean from 1974 to 1979 and as the Interim Dean from 1979 to 1981, returning to the Associate Deanship from 1981 to 1984.

Dean Rakas is a wonderful man, a talented scholar, and we will all miss him. His lasting contributions to our school are the result of his personal dedication and concern for the students, for the school, and for the advancement and recognition of the University of Akron School of Law.

From a legal career beginning at Chicago's John Marshall School of Law and carrying him through several legal positions with the military, Dean Rakas settled in at Akron as Professor and Director of Clinical Teaching. Even with his advancement to Associate Dean, he continued his devotion to the Legal Clinic providing legal services to those who may otherwise have had none, and offering invaluable practical experience to law students.

As Interim Dean, he proved that one man, can have incredible impact — he bridged a wide rift and promoted vital cooperation between the Law School and the Akron Bar Association; he laid ground for the Dean's Club Endowment which now provides many student scholarships; and he generally opened channels within his administration and improved communication and public relations. Dean Rakas encouraged input and ideas from the faculty and paved the way for significant developments such as the Tax Institute which have made our educations more challenging and exciting.

Not far removed from his professional contributions were Dean Rakas' personal achievements. His dynamic personality earned him respect and popularity with both his students and peers, and he provided extensive *pro bono* service to the community as well. He always had time to talk with a concerned or confused student and would not only listen compassionately but would act on what he heard.

Dean Rakas gave of himself for the good of this School, even at the risk of his own health. He has every reason to be enriched by his accomplishments, but so will be the educations of law students for years to come.

The one thing those future students will miss, however, is the pleasure of talking, of learning, of sharing a problem, a concern, or a joke with "our dean" — Albert S. Rakas.

