TO FATHER

After a combined fourteen years of post-high school education, four years of Law Review work and twenty-one years of legal experience, we've discovered that nothing is more difficult than writing about one's father. This is especially true when he has been so special to so many people. We expect that others writing in this dedication issue may honor the teacher, the lawyer, the law student, or the faculty colleague. We, however, write of our father. On into our adulthood he has embodied for us the ideals of honesty and fairness, of compassion and caring for the world, both local and national, of intelligence and hard work, and of love. As we have matured from childhood, we have recognized our fortune in having his continuing example, and the fortune of the community to which he has dedicated most of his adult life. Never one to tout himself, he has worked quietly and effectively to improve the situations of the less fortunate. He is a man dedicated to his family, his faith, his students, and his community and continues as our example of the ethics and personal integrity that is lawyering at its finest.

In a society which grows more complex, technologically, legally, and in almost every other way, it is too easy to lose sight of the intended beneficiaries of our profession: people. Vern Rieke never has and never will lose sight of this priority. He would be happiest if remembered as standing for the principles of fair and honest dealings, tempering law with equity, and extending the helping hand wherever possible. He sought to teach the personal touch and human sensitivity as well as the legal principles with which we all deal professionally.

Perhaps the following favorite quotation of our mother best summarizes his method of achieving this end:

This above all: to thine own self be true,
And it must follow, as the night the day,
Thou canst not then be false to any man.¹

Respectfully, with love

Paul V. Rieke
J.D., Case Western Reserve University School of Law, 1976

Janis Rieke Cunningham
J.D., University of Washington School of Law, 1976


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DEDICATION TO PROFESSOR LUVERN V. RIEKE

Dean John R. Price*

While it is a great pleasure to contribute to the dedication of an issue of the Washington Law Review to Professor Emeritus Vern Rieke, I regret doing so at this time because it is occasioned by Vern's unwelcome early retirement. I write largely to celebrate Vern's long, dedicated, and effective service to our Law School, to our University, to the broader legal community, and to the public. Our good fortune in having this kind and wise man with us for so long is reason for celebration and thanksgiving.

Generations of law students and faculty members benefited from Vern's remarkable career at the University of Washington. Over almost forty years, from 1949 to 1987, he helped guide students through difficult academic waters—ranging from the exquisite mysteries of the law of contracts to the intensely personal and practical concerns of domestic relations. All of the available evidence—observations of colleagues, testimonials of students, and former-student evaluations—indicates that Vern was an extraordinary teacher and effective role model from the very outset of his career. His selection by the Student Bar Association in 1985 as Professor of the Year attests to the continued excellence and effectiveness of his teaching.

Vern's consummate skill as a teacher was also responsible for one of the great joys that deans experience: receiving laudatory letters about faculty members. Throughout his career, Vern's skill has stimulated a flow of letters that has brought joy to a succession of deans. The encomiums of students and former students often mention the effectiveness of Vern's teaching style, comingling humor and drama to help them learn complex and difficult subjects. They also frequently recount, appreciatively, how their attention was captured by his "fine and whimsical sense of human drama and humor." Others have noted his use of the classroom as a teaching theatre: "One of my classmates refers to him as the 'Shakespeare of Contracts' due to his animated discourses on aspects of the bargaining process." Still other letters note "his love of teaching and his sincere interest in students [which] shine through in everything he does."

Vern's extraordinary skill as a teacher has extended beyond the classroom to the Washington Judicial Council (of which he was executive director for many years), legislative hearings and committee meetings, courtrooms, and charitable organizations. His activity in the extended

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classroom was expressed in a tribute by our colleague, Professor Charles Corker:

Vern Rieke is clearly a great teacher, scholar of stature, a role model for students of the law (students and faculty, matriculated and nonmatriculated). Among his students are members of the Washington Legislature, members of the executive branch of state government, and many of the state's judges.

Professor Rieke's leadership in the extended classroom has led to the adoption of an impressive array of reforms in family law. Most recently his service as chairman of a committee studying the problems of domestic violence led to the enactment of the Domestic Violence Prevention Act (1984). His work with that committee continued and he later chaired a Joint Legislative Committee composed of five senators and five representatives, which studied revision of child support legislation.

Throughout his career Vern has made many other important contributions to the Law School, including service as Acting Dean during a critical interval, 1968–70. His integrity, thoughtfulness, and calm leadership as dean helped the faculty overcome the difficulties engendered by some troubling and divisive issues. With characteristic cooperativeness, consideration, and skill, he later shouldered the responsibility of organizing and supervising a tutorial program to assist law students who were experiencing academic difficulties. For several years he also served as faculty advisor to the Legal Aid Society, which continually faced challenging fiscal and organizational problems. His service as a faculty member has been distinguished by a special concern for students, charm and good humor, and a willingness to assume unusually difficult assignments.

As dean I have particularly appreciated Vern's reliable, quiet, steady, and cheerful contributions to the overall life of the Law School. Perhaps equally important, his compassion and innate kindness have been an important model for faculty and students alike. His classroom skills have inspired us all to dedicate more effort to teaching. At least in part because of Vern's example, our law school classrooms are generally more humane—less threatening, more congenial, and much more fun for faculty and students alike. That Vern's heart is in the classroom is also evidenced by his wish that an oil portrait of him, commissioned and contributed to the Law School by Professor Cornelius Peck, would hang in Vern's favorite classroom, Room 135.

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Dedication to Professor Luvern V. Rieke

A recognition of Vern's many contributions to the Law School would be incomplete without noting the strong support provided by his wife, Jane. They are a great team, who we hope will enjoy health and happiness together for many years to come.
A TRIBUTE TO PROFESSOR RIEKE

Sidney C. Volinn*

The summer of 1969 in the greater Seattle construction industry was a turbulent one, marked by demonstrations by the minority community protesting their exclusion from the construction unions. Many demonstrations stopped work at major construction sites: at the University of Washington demonstrators incapacitated heavy equipment; at Sea-Tac airport demonstrators prevented aircraft from using the runways.

Activities and emotions escalated. The Department of Justice filed a complaint signed by John Mitchell, President Nixon's Attorney General, bringing suit against five unions: Local 86, Iron Workers; Local 99, Sheet Metal Workers; Local 46, IBEW (electricians); Local 32, Plumbers and Pipefitters; and Local 502, Operating Engineers in the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington. The primary rationale advanced was that the unions and the employers were required to observe presidential Executive Order No. 11246, which forbade discrimination against minorities and required affirmative action in all construction jobs involving federal funds.

United States District Judge William J. Lindberg presided over the case. He ultimately concluded that the involved unions had discriminated systematically against minorities, excluding them from membership. At the time of trial, each of the four construction unions had one black member. The distribution was as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Membership</th>
<th>Black</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Iron Workers</td>
<td>920</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheet Metal Workers</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electricians</td>
<td>1,715</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plumbers and Pipefitters</td>
<td>1,900</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>5,435</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Having found discrimination, the court attempted, with specific provisions, to prospectively prevent discrimination against minorities. Additionally, to rectify the imbalance, the unions and employers were required

2. Id., 315 F. Supp. at 1208.
to engage in apprenticeship training with a view to meeting the affirmative action requirements of Executive Order No. 11246. Specific standards as to admissions of blacks into the apprenticeship and training programs were set and programs created with a view to providing special training and education for black apprentices.

The orders of the court, if they were to be effective, would require an ongoing administrative body to organize and supervise the various provisions designed to effectuate the decree. The administrative structure created was the Court Order Advisory Committee (COAC). COAC consisted of nine persons, drawn from the labor unions, the contractors, governmental agencies, and black and minority groups. The unions and the contractors were required to pay committee expenses although it was hoped funding would be available from the government. Initially, implementing the court's decree and the functioning of the committee were difficult. Not only was the committee unique, with a consequent lack of actual or vicarious experience, but its early course was attended by uncertainty and internal friction.

Ultimately it was concluded that a nonvoting, impartial chairman, who would serve in addition to the nine voting members with power to make recommendations to the court, should be appointed. In February 1971, Judge Lindberg appointed Professor Luvern Rieke as the impartial chairman. Thereafter, COAC—with increasing sophistication and effectiveness—ensured that black apprentices were selected and effectively trained to become journeymen in the various trades.

On July 1, 1983, Bill Dolf, Recording Secretary of the Seattle-area Iron Workers Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee (JATC) filed an affidavit stating that the original court order required the Iron Workers JACT to graduate 84 to 86 black apprentices to journeyman status by December 31, 1981. As of October 1, 1981, the Ironworkers JACT had graduated 78 black apprentices and as of February 11, 1983, 84 blacks had graduated to journeyman status. The plumbers and pipefitters had been required to graduate 96 black apprentices to journeyman status by December 31, 1981. As of July 1981, 98 blacks had been graduated to journeyman status. The electricians exceeded their goal of 75 by graduating 78. The sheet metal workers met their goal by graduating 81. Ultimately, the goals having been met, the unions applied for dismissal of the litigation, and on September 19, 1983, the case was dismissed. By then, 381 minority journeymen were union members working in the trades where virtually none had existed before.

The court's decree could not have been effectively administered over such a long term of years without the COAC. For most of this time, the Committee's ability to work in unity toward a constructive resolution of the
many problems along the way was attributable to Professor Rieke's leadership, perseverance, and integrity. COAC members, despite widely divergent backgrounds and purposes, never questioned his fairness and abiding belief that all concerned could reconcile their differences to attain the goals of the decree. Professor Rieke spent countless hours without remuneration. His reward, and that of our community, was the achievement of a unique and lasting contribution to racial and economic equality.