



IN MEMORIAM

Abraham Dash

“A wonderful man and a class act.”

*William Reynolds, Jacob A. France Professor Emeritus
of Judicial Process, Maryland Carey Law*

IN JANUARY 2014, the Maryland Carey Law community lost a dear friend and colleague, Professor Emeritus Abraham Dash.

Abe Dash was “a triple threat—a man with three careers,” said former dean and Professor Karen Rothenberg in 2005 at the time of Dash’s retirement from Maryland Carey Law. In addition to his work as a teacher and scholar, he served with distinction as a pilot in the U.S. Air Force and as a litigator in the federal

government, bringing intelligence and integrity to all three professional arenas.

After enlisting in the Navy at 16, near the end of World War II, Dash flew transport planes and bombers during the Korean War, becoming the sole survivor of his 51st combat mission when his plane was shot down over Korea. He remained an officer in the Judge Advocate General Corps, retiring as a lieutenant colonel in 1987 after a 42-year military career. After earning his JD in just two years from

Georgetown Law, Dash worked as associate counsel for the Senate Judiciary Committee and served as a litigator for the National Labor Relations Board, the Criminal Division of the Justice Department, and deputy chief counsel to Treasury’s Comptroller of the Currency.

In 1970, Dash joined the faculty of Maryland Carey Law, where he taught courses in administrative law, criminal procedure, and the legal profession. He also was a guest lecturer or instructor

“When I was his student, he never compromised until he got my best effort. He would say ‘you might fool your colleagues, but you can’t fool me, and you certainly can’t fool yourself.’ It is still one of the greatest pieces of advice I have ever been privileged to receive.”

José F. Anderson '84
Professor,
University of Baltimore Law School

“Everyone who knows Abe Dash recognizes that he found his true calling...when he began teaching.”

Judge (ret.) Howard S. Chasanow '61

“He was the hands-down ethics expert in the State. He was also a great friend of the clinical program”

Michael Millemann
Jacob A. France Professor of
Public Interest Law,
Maryland Carey Law

“Abe was an ideal conversationalist because he was one of those rare individuals who cared more about what you had to say than what he said.”

Donald Gifford,
Edward M. Robertson Research Professor of Law,
Maryland Carey Law

“Professor Dash taught me a lesson which has stayed with me over 35 years of practicing law—the difficulty in drawing the sometimes delicate line between the lawyer’s sense of personal as well as legal ethics and the advocacy to which every client is entitled—I still think of him when faced with those or related issues.”

Joshua Raff '77

“His war stories were the best. They reminded students that they were being taught by someone who had really been through it all and seen it all.”

Joey Kroart '13

“Without a doubt, Professor Dash was a tremendous influence on the thousands of law students who had the good fortune to experience not only his lectures, but also his genuine love of the law.”

Stephen Nolan '76

“His commitment to the legal community, both as a practicing attorney and educator, is greatly appreciated and he will be sorely missed.”

The Hon. Joan Carter Conway
Maryland State Senate

“He was the former prosecutor, who truly represented the ‘minister of justice’ for an accused that the Model Rules ask of every government lawyer. Abe was the colleague who responded when we called for advice and counsel on issues that arose in practice. His generosity, kindness and grace represents a model of collegiality that should guide us in the days ahead.”

Douglas L. Colbert
Professor of Law,
Maryland Carey Law

at the National Judicial College, the American Bar Association’s Administrative Law Section, the Federal Administrative Law Judges Conference, and the National Institute of Trial Advocacy, among many professional bodies.

He served as a consultant for the Joint Committee of the Maryland Judicial Conference and Maryland State Bar Association to implement the American Bar Association’s Standards for Criminal Justice; the Committee on the Maryland District Court; and the University of

Maryland Court Management Institute.

Law School Professor Emeritus Jerome Deise recalled that in 1990, when he first met him, Professor Dash was already a highly respected attorney and teacher, well-known to those who practiced criminal law. “I expected to find a very smart, arrogant, impatient, and curmudgeonly man,” Deise said. “I found instead, a very smart, generous, humble, kind, and gentle man ... the word that most aptly describes Abe, of course, is ‘gentleman.’ ”

