

## A LEGACY OF LAW AND LOVE

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After 34 years of long exams, spirited discussions with students and classroom personality Rollo the Rattlesnake, Professor Alice A. Brumbaugh retired from teaching full-time at the end of the 2002-2003 academic year. The faculty has unanimously granted her emeritus status.

"I like to think I've been a good teacher and turned out some good students and helped them along the way with administrative matters," Brumbaugh says modestly. "It's hard to retire, but my memories have been very happy ones."

Alice Brumbaugh did more than teach at the School of Law. With her late husband John, who died in 2001 after nearly 45 years at the School of Law, she helped create a legacy.

"Almost every law student since 1969 has had the privilege of being taught by Alice Brumbaugh," says Dean Karen H. Rothenberg, who recalls lines of students outside Brumbaugh's office waiting to discuss class or administrative issues.

For many years, John Brumbaugh occupied the office across the hall. They met at the School and married in 1983. "They were a couple to be respected," Rothenberg says. "They shared a love for each other and a love for the law."

Alice Brumbaugh helped pass on that love in a unique way, colleagues said. Popular with students and famous for long exams, Brumbaugh may perhaps be best remembered for introducing the misadventures of Rollo the Rattlesnake to her students.

"He was a character in many a hypothetical," explains Professor William L. Reynolds. "Students gave her a number of Rollos—not real ones, toy ones—and she kept them displayed proudly."

"It is rumored she feeds low-performing students to Rollo on weekends," jokes Professor Alan Hornstein. "That's something generations of students will remember."

Hornstein and Reynolds agree that Brumbaugh was absolutely dedicated to her students, very caring and hard working. "She and John were such a devoted couple. It was just a wonderful marriage," Reynolds says.

The Robert Stanton Distinguished Service Professor of Law



since 1993, Brumbaugh teaches property and criminal law courses. She will continue to teach one course a semester, something her husband did after his 1996 retirement. "We are fortunate that Alice will continue to be with us," Rothenberg affirms.

Brumbaugh earned a juris doctor from the University of Michigan in 1955. She practiced law in New York before joining the School of Law, where she became the first woman on the faculty. She served a long tenure as the chairperson of the administrative committee, which deals with individual student matters as well as administrative policy, and had a reputation of being fair and thorough, Rothenberg notes.

She is a member of both the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel and the Governor's Commission to Revise the Annotated Code of Maryland and is an academic fellow of the American College of Probate Counsel. ■

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