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Nancy A. Armstrong

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Tributes to Professor Michael W. Lewis

A Tribute to Mike Lewis

NANCY A. ARMSTRONG*

It was one year ago this month that we celebrated Mike's life at a special memorial service on our campus. Our community—students, faculty, staff, and alumni from a small law school in Ohio—came together to honor him, despite our truly overwhelming sense of loss. It is hard to put into words how much Mike meant to us. But as a university community, we have worked together in many ways to try to honor him. With this tribute I hope to capture a sense of this, and share with others the lasting impact that Mike had at Ohio Northern University.

MANY ACHIEVEMENTS

Mike Lewis graduated first in his class from the United States Navy Officer Candidate School and flew F-14's from the aircraft carrier USS Independence.¹ Before his career in the Navy, he lived in England for a period of time and graduated from Johns Hopkins University in 1986. Mike was an accomplished F-14 Naval Flight Officer, serving on two deployments as part of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. He was a 1992 Topgun graduate, qualified as Mission Commander, and was featured in a NOVA documentary on the Topgun program and aircraft carriers.²

After serving in the Navy from 1987 to 1995, Mike went to Harvard Law School. He was Editor of the Harvard Journal of Law and Public Policy and graduated *cum laude* in 1998. Mike was a litigation associate for Thompson & Knight (1998-2000) and McGuireWoods (2003-2006), and spent the years in between as a consultant with McKinsey & Company (2000-2003). He joined the law faculty at Ohio Northern in the fall of 2006.

* Director of the Law Library and Professor of Law, Ohio Northern University Pettit College of Law.

1. Resume of Michael Lewis (2011) (on file with author).

2. *NOVA: Aircraft Carrier* (PBS television broadcast Apr. 19, 1994); see *Aircraft Carrier! Program Overview*, PBS (Dec. 2003), http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/education/programs/2110_carrier.html (providing an overview of the episode).

Mike was active in so many areas. He wrote articles on the laws of war, international humanitarian law, and national security law. He regularly participated in debates and panels throughout the country and around the world as a sought-after expert in the law of armed conflict. A very small sampling of his activities includes a national debate on the constitutionality of drone strikes, with partner Harvard Professor Alan Dershowitz, at the National Constitution Center,³ serving as defense counsel for the nationally broadcast “World on Trial” educational program on the U.S. Government’s use of drones,⁴ and providing testimony for a Congressional hearing on “Civil Liberties and National Security.”⁵

Yet despite all his achievements, what many of us remember the most was Mike’s dedication to his students and to his family, especially his young daughter Sarah. Mike served as a role model for our students, particularly those interested in a military career, and was a devoted father. From time to time he brought Sarah into school with him and proudly talked about her latest gymnastics events. We each have our special memories of seeing Mike and Sarah together here. They talked and walked together in the building, and sometimes Mike would ask Sarah to show us a new gymnastics move that she had just mastered. Mike consistently dedicated himself to her development, and showed his care and concern for both her and our community throughout his time here.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

On June 28, 2015, many members of our community attended Mike’s memorial service at the First Presbyterian Church in Findlay, Ohio. Speakers included several members of our law faculty, who hoped to convey how much Mike meant to us through their stories and special

3. *Ohio Northern University Law Professor Proves Once Again to Be a Leading Voice on Drone Warfare*, OHIO N. U., <http://www.onu.edu/features/56877> (last visited Oct. 18, 2016); see *The President Has Constitutional Power to Target and Kill U.S. Citizens Abroad*, INTELLIGENCE SQUARED US, <http://www.intelligencesquaredus.org/debates/president-has-constitutional-power-target-and-kill-us-citizens-abroad> (last visited Oct. 18, 2016) (providing an archived video of the debate).

4. *World on Trial Episode Two: Legality of US Drone Program Hinges on State of Conflict*, PENN ST. U. (July 12, 2013), https://pennstatelaw.psu.edu/news/world_on_trial_episode_two_filming_concludes; see Dickinson Law - Penn State, *World on Trial - Episode 2*, YOUTUBE (Mar. 18, 2015), <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-lrzyy80h8I> [hereinafter *World on Trial Trailer*] (providing a trailer of the episode).

5. See generally *Civil Liberties and National Security: Hearing Before the Subcomm. on the Constitution, Civil Rights and Civil Liberties of the H. Comm. on the Judiciary*, 111th Cong. 53-68 (2010) (statement of Michael W. Lewis, Professor of Law, Ohio Northern University Pettit College of Law).

memories.⁶ In lieu of flowers, memorials were suggested in his name to the Flag City Honor Flight program or the Wounded Warrior Project.⁷

Our campus memorial service was held about two months later, after school started again, so that returning students and recent graduates could attend. Many alumni traveled great distances to return to campus so they could attend the program, including some in military uniform. The service was held in the English Chapel in the center of our campus on Friday, September 18, 2015.

There were many lovely tributes from students, alumni, and colleagues. Some stories mentioned a special activity or connection with Mike.⁸ In recognition of Mike's love for soccer, the phrase "You'll Never Walk Alone," along with the crest from the Liverpool Football Club,⁹ were printed on the back of the program. This text appeared inside the program:

IN MEMORIAM
MICHAEL W. LEWIS
DECEMBER 6, 1964 – JUNE 21, 2015

~ PRELUDE MUSIC ~

~ OPENING HYMN ~
ABIDE WITH ME – PAGE 700

~ OPENING REMARKS ~

~ TESTIMONIALS ~
FROM CURRENT STUDENT, ALUMNUS, COLLEAGUE

~ READING ~
ISAIAH 40:28-31

6. Speakers from the College of Law included Joanne Brant, Brian Anderson, Bryan Ward, and Stephen Veltri.

7. First Presbyterian Church of Findlay, Ohio, *A Service of Witness to the Resurrection – In Memory of Michael William Lewis – December 6, 1964 – June 21, 2015* (2015).

8. For example, Dana Carlson, JD '16, one of his teaching assistants for Torts, told a story about the laughs they had together when Mike would use a funny phrase from the movie "The Princess Bride." Dana and her classmate Anne Mulhern, JD '16, had also given Mike a copy of this book and captured a joyous photo of him opening the gift. Others also described special memories unique to their connection with him. Audio CD: Mike Lewis Memorial Service, held by the Ohio Northern University Pettit College of Law (Sept. 18, 2015) (on file with author).

9. Liverpool's soccer team is called the Liverpool Football Club, Liverpool FC, or LFC. See *Liverpool Football Club is Formed*, LIVERPOOL FC, <http://www.liverpoolfc.com/history/liverpool-football-club-is-formed> (last visited Oct. 29, 2016).

~ PSALM RESPONSE ~
PSALM 15 – PAGE 747

~ TESTIMONIALS ~
FROM CURRENT STUDENT, ALUMNAE, COLLEAGUE

~ HOMILY ~

~ CLOSING HYMN ~
ONWARD, CHRISTIAN SOLDIERS – PAGE 575

Immediately following the service, all are invited to gather at The Inn at ONU to share food and drink, and stories about Professor Lewis's impact on their lives.¹⁰

Much of the campus memorial service was organized by one of Mike's good friends here, Brian Anderson, a fellow soccer fan.¹¹ Brian worked quietly behind the scenes to develop the program, work with the university chaplain, and reach out to alumni and other individuals to invite them to participate. Both the service and the gathering afterwards were moving and meaningful for our community.



10. Ohio N. Univ., *In Memoriam Michael W. Lewis December 6, 1964 – June 21, 2015* (2015).

11. Brian Anderson, JD '10, LL.M '11, is the Assistant Director of the LL.M Program at the Ohio Northern University Pettit College of Law.

VETERANS DAY AT OHIO NORTHERN

On the first Veterans Day after Mike's passing, our University President, Daniel DiBiasio, dedicated the annual campus Veterans Day Wreath Laying Ceremony to Mike's memory. In prior years, Mike stood alongside campus leaders as a highly respected and important participant, joining others who served our country. On November 11, 2015, President DiBiasio remarked:

Welcome everyone and thank you for being here this morning.

It is so important that we gather and pause on this day and in this way to honor veterans and active duty military men and women by paying tribute to all those who have served and are serving our country.

At Ohio Northern, our solemn reverence and deep respect for military service began at the very beginning, with the University's founder, Henry Solomon Lehr, who was a Civil War veteran . . . and our duty today is to remember them

In particular, we remember Law Professor Michael Lewis who passed away last June after battling cancer. Professor Lewis was a commissioned officer in the Navy and served as a navigator in F-14s on the aircraft carrier Independence. He served in the first Gulf [W]ar and graduated from the Navy's Top Gun Fighter Weapons School.

Professor Lewis graduated from Harvard Law School. During his time there, perhaps he noticed that on a gate leading into Harvard Yard are the words of the University's most important and influential president, Charles William Eliot. It reads: 'Enter to grow in wisdom, depart to serve better thy country and thy kind.'

Today we are privileged to honor all those who served their country and humankind as well.

From Lehr to Lewis, Northern has sustained a connection to the Military . . . I want you to know that you have our collective appreciation. To each of you and your families, let me say, on behalf of the University, 'thank you' for **swearing an oath, thank**

you for serving our nation, and thank you for standing for valor.¹²



CONTINUING IMPACT

While the national and international impact of Mike's work is more widely known, he also had an important impact on our community at Ohio Northern. His classroom demeanor, his workhorse approach to getting something done, his small acts of kindness—all of these things were important to those who worked with him. Some actions may have been small in scale, but they had a lasting impact.

One important area where Mike had a substantial impact was in helping students who were interested in careers in the Judge Advocate General (JAG) program. Mike offered a unique *Law of War* seminar course, which was especially popular with these students. He brought ONU law students to the JAG School in Charlottesville, Virginia, where they attended classes with Army JAG officers during January Term.¹³

One student who worked closely with Mike was Kyle Bickford, JD '10. Kyle received our Summer Scholar Award in the summer after his first year to work with a faculty member on a substantial research project. He assisted Mike with research on legal issues regarding prisoners of war.¹⁴ A

12. Daniel DiBiasio, President, Ohio N. Univ., Remarks at the 2015 Ohio Northern University Veterans Day Ceremony (Nov. 11, 2015).

13. Ohio N. Univ., *High-Impact Learning*, 2014 WRIT 17 (2014).

14. Ohio N. Univ., *Summer Scholar Researches the Definition of Torture*, 2008 WRIT 33 (2008). Mike published two articles which included Kyle's research and contributions while he was Mike's research assistant as part of the Summer Scholar program. See generally Michael W. Lewis, *Battlefield Perspectives on the Laws of War*, in THE WAR ON TERROR AND THE LAWS OF WAR: A MILITARY PERSPECTIVE 237 (2d ed. 2015); Michael W. Lewis, *A Dark Descent into Reality: Making the Case for an Objective Definition of Torture*, 67 WASH. & LEE L. REV. 77 (2010).

few years later, when Mike was selected to participate in the widely-publicized “World on Trial” program, he asked Kyle to join him as the second seat attorney for the trial.¹⁵ The issue in the trial focused on the legality of using drones to target suspected terrorists. Mock juries around the world viewed the program to determine whether a drone strike was a violation of international human rights law.¹⁶

Although Kyle had graduated and gone into an unrelated area of law, he was given this special opportunity to participate in this unique educational program. Mike could have chosen anyone to be his second chair for the trial. But he remembered Kyle’s hard work, invited Kyle to join him, and made sure Kyle was fully involved in the project. Mike gave him one of those rare opportunities that so many of our students fondly look back on with genuine gratitude.

ONU LAW VETERANS ASSOCIATION EVENT

In November 2014, Mike was scheduled to speak at an event sponsored by the ONU Law Veterans Association. The co-presidents sent an email to the law school community announcing the event. At the time, Mike was still planning to be away in Washington D.C. on a special appointment to the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board, which would have started in January 2015. The student group understood that this might be the last time they would hear him speak, as most of them would have graduated by the time he was scheduled to return in January 2017. Their message shows their deep respect and fondness for Mike, a fellow veteran:

Professor Lewis will speak on domestic drone use as it relates to YOUR privacy rights, and the distinction between military and police use. Professor Lewis is widely renowned for his expertise in this area. Because he is planning a two year sabbatical, we may not have another chance to pick his brain.

Come join us . . . on Monday, 17 November.

Dorothy L Williams & Corrie Damulis
Co-presidents[,] ONU Law Veterans Association¹⁷

15. *World on Trial Trailer*, *supra* note 4 (describes the *World on Trial* project and includes a few shots of Mike and Kyle).

16. *TV Program Puts U.S. Drone Strikes on Trial*, PENN ST. U. (July 15, 2013), <http://news.psu.edu/story/281704/2013/07/15/impact/tv-program-puts-us-drone-strikes-trial>.

17. E-mail from Dorothy Williams, Student, Ohio Northern University Pettit College of Law, to the Student Body of the Ohio Northern University Pettit College of Law (Nov. 5, 2014, 11:07 EST) (on file with author).

ANNUAL PUBLIC INTEREST AUCTION

Each year, the law school holds a Public Interest Auction to raise money for stipends to help support students working in public sector jobs over the summer. Mike's annual contribution to the auction, which provided students with a "Top Gun Evening," was legendary. He would come to the auction in his military jacket and sunglasses and offer a special group viewing of the movie "Top Gun." Mike would promise to wear his full flight gear to the viewing and provide as much aerial combat narration as the students would want:

Live Auction Item 72: Watch "Top Gun" with a "Top Gun"

"Top Gun" Professor Mike Lewis donates an evening with up to 8 people watching the movie "Top Gun." Professor Lewis was a "Top Gun" in the Navy and will provide an experienced and interesting review. Professor Lewis will wear his flight gear for the occasion and lead an entirely optional discussion of modern air combat techniques following the movie for those interested. Professor Lewis will supply beverages. Both the location and preferred beverages are determined by the auction winner.¹⁸



Groups of students would bid against each other to have this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to view the movie Top Gun with our very own "LuLu."¹⁹ The movie viewing was always a very popular item in the auction, with many students—men and women alike—bidding against each other to win this event. The students who watched the movie with Mike had a great deal of fun sharing this unique experience with him.

18. Ohio N. Univ., *ONU Public Interest Auction Program, Live Auction Item 72* (2014) (on file with author).

19. Mike was known in the military by his call sign, "LuLu." See, e.g., "Aircraft Carrier", PBS, <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/transcripts/2110gairc.html> (last visited Oct. 29, 2016).

MIKE'S 50TH BIRTHDAY

Mike's 50th birthday was on December 6, 2014. Our Associate Dean, Bryan Ward, was a very close friend of Mike's and had been planning a special day of watching televised soccer matches at his home in the country. As the discouraging information about Mike's illness started to emerge, Bryan decided to host a bigger party for Mike and graciously opened up his home for a larger gathering. People gladly made the sixty-mile trip through the rural Ohio countryside to spend some terrific time with Mike. The mood was upbeat and celebratory—marking the exact day of Mike's 50th birthday. He looked and sounded great, and seemed delighted to have so many friends there. It was a day-long event with wonderful food and nonstop soccer. A highlight was watching Liverpool's soccer team—Bryan and Mike's favorite team.²⁰ Mike was also touched by a large birthday card that I had asked students to sign for him, calling it "a keeper." This special celebration was a wonderful memory for us all as we prepared to move into uncertain times ahead.

"YOU'LL NEVER WALK ALONE"

The phrase "You'll Never Walk Alone" took on special meaning for us. It has a long history of its own as a popular song, and it is also an important phrase and song in the world of soccer.²¹ For many reasons, this phrase came to represent our community's support for Mike, and the students used it as an important part of their special initiative to show support for his family. One of our students, Ryan Sabol (a star soccer player and co-captain of a successful NCAA Division III team), commented on this:

Professor Armstrong,

. . . From the first time I met Professor Lewis, I thought he was the coolest guy ever! . . . When I found out he was a fan of soccer and more specifically a fan of the soccer team Liverpool F.C., I was actually not all that surprised, because . . . when I met him and got to talk with him . . . it would make sense for . . . us to be fans of the same team.

20. E-mail from Bryan Ward, Associate Dean, Ohio Northern University Pettit College of Law, to Nancy Armstrong, Dir., Ohio Northern University Taggart Law Library (Oct. 12, 2016, 13:19 EST) (on file with author).

21. See *You'll Never Walk Alone – Lyrics and History*, KOP LEFT, <http://www.kopleft.com/youll-never-walk-alone-lyrics-and-history/> (last visited Oct. 18, 2016).

When I found out about his diagnosis I was quite sad (of course that goes without saying; everyone loved him[,] so everyone was shocked and upset when they heard the news). I remember signing the birthday card you were passing around with the phrase ‘You’ll Never Walk Alone’ because I felt it was perfect given the situation, and because that phrase is Liverpool F.C.’s song/creed/mantra. I also remember the last time I had a conversation with him was after the last day of class in Sales & Secured Transactions during his last semester of teaching. That conversation started because I was near him wearing my Liverpool F.C. pants when he saw them and told me he thought they were really cool.

Obviously Professor Lewis was a great man, and he is and always will be missed . . .

Sincerely,

Ryan Sabol²²

THE BIG TALK

Mike was a dedicated role model for our students. He taught Torts in the fall of 2014 and had a special bond with those first-year students.²³ During their January Term course in January 2015, Mike was invited in to review their Torts final exam. He decided to share his diagnosis with them and used the visit as a way to address other issues the students were facing at that time. One student who was in the room that day called it the class’s “wake-up call.”²⁴ Another student explained in more detail:

Professor Lewis was asked to speak to the 1L class during the J-Term to help us rewrite our [T]orts finals. He used this opportunity to tell us about his diagnosis. He was open and honest about the disease and the low survival rate. He encouraged us to give back to our community and to treat others kindly. He told us that our primary focus should be acting in a way that would make ourselves

22. E-mail from Ryan Sabol, Student, Ohio Northern University Pettit College of Law, to Nancy Armstrong, Dir., Ohio Northern University Taggart Law Library (Apr. 29, 2016, 14:29 EST) (on file with author).

23. These students are now our 3L students—the Class of 2017. They are the last class of students who had Mike as their professor.

24. Conversation with Eric Ambos, Student, Ohio Northern University Pettit College of Law (Oct. 7, 2016).

proud to look in the mirror every morning. He tied this into working in the legal profession, and treating others with kindness, respect, and dignity.

-Sam²⁵

STUDENT INITIATIVE FOR PROFESSOR LEWIS

As our students began to learn about Mike's diagnosis, they started a special initiative to show their support for him during this difficult time. They had not expected to see him at all for the next two years, as he was scheduled to return in the last semester of their third year of law school. On January 10, 2015, the Student Bar Association president sent an email with the subject line "Student Initiative for Professor Lewis" to all of the students announcing the news and asking for support:

Dear Students,

We hope your winter break is going well . . . With the start of J-term many students have found out th[at] Professor Lewis is remaining at ONU to teach another semester. However, the reason for his decision was because of a diagnosis he received . . . Some of you may not know that Professor Lewis has been diagnosed with a rare, aggressive form of cancer. He has started chemo therapy this week.

The first years have decided to spearhead a committee to show the school's appreciat[ion] and support for Professor Lewis through this chapter of his life.

The idea for this initiative would be to create a gift basket for Professor Lewis and his family with the theme: 'You will Never Walk Alone.' This slogan is actually from the Liverpool Soccer Club, which is one of Professor Lewis's favorite teams. Going through chemo is taxing not only for the patient but for the family as well. We are collecting items for Professor Lewis, his wife, and 11 year old daughter named Sarah . . .

We would love to have the entire school involved . . .

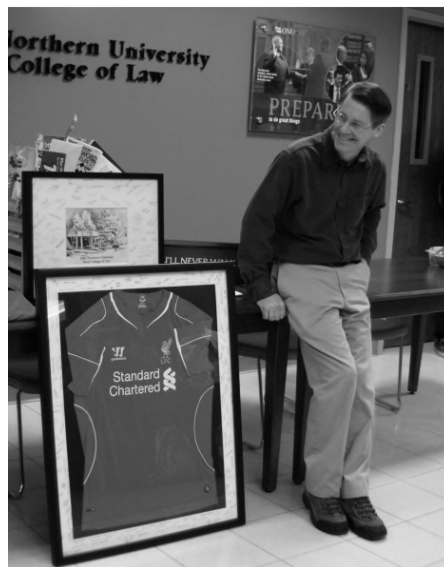
Thank you!

Rebeka Beresh . . .²⁶

25. E-mail from Samantha Rutter, Student, Ohio Northern University Pettit College of Law, to Nancy Armstrong, Dir., Ohio Northern University Taggart Law Library (Apr. 28, 2016, 13:19 EST) (on file with author).

I will never forget how our first-year student, Samantha Rutter, called out to him—"Professor Lewis!"—to get his attention as he walked by the student lounge on the day of the event. Mike had not realized that the large group gathered there was for him. He seemed truly stunned that the students had organized a special event for him. He seemed truly stunned that the students had organized a special event for him. Mike was touched both by their concern and by their special gifts, including various soccer and hockey items. I know this unexpected gesture of kindness organized by his first-year students meant a lot to him. Sam described the connection between the Big Talk and their special gift basket:

During our J-Term Legal Problem Solving and Analysis class, Professor Lewis came in to talk to us about treating each other with kindness and professionalism . . . He framed his speech by revealing that he had been diagnosed with an aggressive form of cancer. He reminded [us] how precious life is and how short it can be. This inspired our class to create a gift basket for Professor Lewis and his family. It was the best way to honor and implement his message of treating others with kindness.²⁷



26. E-mail from Rebeka Beresh, Student, Ohio Northern University Pettit College of Law, to the Student Body of the Ohio Northern University Pettit College of Law (Jan. 10, 2015, 09:32 EST) (on file with author).

27. E-mail from Samantha Rutter, Student, Ohio Northern University Pettit College of Law, to Nancy Armstrong, Dir., Ohio Northern University Taggart Law Library (Apr. 28, 2016, 12:29 EST) (on file with author).

RELAY FOR LIFE PROGRAM

On March 18, 2016, Ohio Northern's Relay For Life program was dedicated to the memory of Mike Lewis.²⁸ This annual campus event supports those who have battled cancer.²⁹ The event is a "celebration of life," as described in the following e-mail:

For several years, walkers have joined the battle against cancer during the American Cancer Society Relay For Life. This celebration of life brings together numerous groups and individuals across campus and the surrounding community who are affected by cancer and unified in the effort to fight back.

Each spring, teams of students, faculty, staff, and community members gather at the King Horn fieldhouse for the annual Relay For Life event. Relay For Life aims to celebrate anyone who has battled cancer, remember loved ones lost, and empower all to fight back against the disease. During the event, various activities take place . . . Highlighting the event is the luminaria ceremony, held to honor cancer survivors and to remember those who have lost the battle against cancer. Luminaries line the track to remind participants of the incredible importance of their contributions.³⁰

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS IN THE LAW LIBRARY

The Mike Lewis Collection was assembled to honor Mike and his contributions to academia and to the law school.³¹ It includes materials authored by Mike, as well as contemporary, rare, and historic books related to his scholarly interests, such as the laws of war, ethical issues in armed conflict, military trials, and the misconduct and punishment of combatants. Materials in the collection are available in the Rare Book and Special Collections Room of the Law Library.

28. E-mail from Mark Cruea, Assistant Professor of Communication Studies, Ohio Northern University, to the Campus of Ohio Northern University (Mar. 17, 2016, 15:13 EST) (on file with author).

29. *Id.*

30. *Id.*; see *Relay for Life*, OHIO N. U., <https://www.onu.edu/event/66053> (last visited Oct. 18, 2016).

31. Many of the documents referenced in this tribute will be kept in the Mike Lewis Collection at the Taggart Law Library, Ohio Northern University Pettit College of Law.

The first donation to this collection was a leather bound copy of Cicero's *De Officiis*. At the donor's suggestion, the Law Library designed a bookplate for the collection using a significant line from this work:

[N]ON NOBIS SOLUM NATI SUMUS ORTUSQUE NOSTRI PARTEM PATRIA
VINDICAT, PARTEM AMICI

("We are not born, we do not live for ourselves alone; our country,
our friends, have a share in us.")³²



U.S. COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE ARMED FORCES

The law school has recently announced that the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces (CAAF) will be hearing oral arguments on our campus in the spring of 2017 as part of its Project Outreach program. The Court is scheduled to be here on April 4 and 5, 2017. One day is planned for direct student contact, including opportunities for workshops and networking events. This will be the CAAF's first visit to an Ohio law school. We anticipate recognizing Mike during this visit next spring.

32. *De Officiis*, WIKIPEDIA, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/De_Officiis (last visited Nov. 7, 2016).

LESSONS TO BE KIND

I remember those early days in the fall of 2006 when Mike was first here. He was a new member of our community, but was also still deeply involved in matters from his prior position. His cell phone rang constantly. Mike would walk briskly into the hallway to take the calls, answering the phone matter-of-factly: “*Mike Lewis.*” It was all business—no “hellos” or small talk—just his name. Mike would then be far down the hall, cell phone to his ear, and deep in conversation about some ongoing litigation or other important matter that needed to be resolved.

I thought of this memory during that uncertain time in the fall of 2014 when the details of Mike’s illness were starting to come to light. So much had changed in the eight years since his arrival. Mike had become a tenured professor of law and was a nationally-known expert in the law of armed conflict. He was a fantastic teacher who was beloved by the student body. Mike was also a true team player who could be relied on to work hard and pull (more than) his weight on committees and projects. Mike was very well respected throughout our campus as well. Indeed, he had recently been granted a sabbatical by the University for a portion of his special appointment to the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board, scheduled to begin in January 2015. It was clear to many of us at this point that he would likely become a dean for our college at some point in the future.

But none of that would come to pass. In the fall of 2014, his cell phone would ring and none of us—not even Mike—would know what unexpected medical update it would bring. During one long faculty meeting we practically held our breath as a group when his phone went off. Mike had told us that he was expecting a medical update that day, and he left the room to take the call in the hallway. Even after all of his years here, his cell phone still rang about urgent matters, but now each new call was bringing more and more uncertainty.

We each had our special connections with Mike. I still appreciate the kindness and respect that he gave me during the fall of 2014, when I was a first-time committee chair of the faculty appointments committee. I had to move through new areas very slowly at first, while he had significant prior experience and expertise on the committee.³³ We worked together very intensively for many months on faculty appointments. We met, talked, and emailed constantly, and had gone to the AALS Conference in D.C. together as a committee.

33. Mike would have been the chair, but since he was expected to be in Washington, D.C. that spring, he could not serve for the entire year. He and Deidré Keller, both much more experienced with this work than I was, helped guide our committee work and provided great support to me in my new role.

At the end of that semester, Mike showed his kindness again by personally coming to our offices to tell us about his diagnosis. As hard as it must have been for him to repeat this news to each of us, he also must have known how hard we would take it, especially after working together so closely. Mike wanted to be the one who reached out, rather than having us hear from others. We were so grateful for his kindness.

Shortly after his diagnosis, Mike and I had a few conversations in my office. At one point Mike said to me that he knew what he was facing was going to be hard. I thought he might continue with some more thoughts about how it would impact him, but he didn't. Instead, he said simply that he wanted to be able to show his daughter, Sarah, how to do something that was really hard to do. This was important to him—to try to be a strong and positive role model in the face of something that was very difficult.

I was amazed by his genuine concern for all of those around him. I was also inspired by his tremendous inner strength, and his ability to think about and strategize on positive ways to tackle a difficult set of circumstances: first there would be this treatment, then that one, then the next one if the others didn't work. He also continued to teach in the spring of 2015. Mike tried to stay strong, be engaged, and be physically present in the building as much as he could so he could fulfill his responsibilities and be available to students. He did this despite some very powerful treatments against a very aggressive disease.

The last time I saw Mike was in May 2015 at the end of the spring semester. He was in the computer lab to gather up his exams, which he needed to take home and grade. It was only a month later in June, while I was away on vacation, that I received the sad news of his passing. Although we knew he was ill, he had been on the class schedule to teach in the fall term, so the news of his passing was still unexpected. I can only imagine the shock to the more distant community of his colleagues, many of whom did not know he was ill at all.

While others may remember Mike for his academic achievements or distinguished military service, perhaps my most lasting memory will be his lessons of kindness to others. Mike took his illness and sought to show others how to be strong and how to do something that was very hard to do. He reminded us to value family and friendships, and to be kind to each other. Mike lived by that example, and continues to inspire us to do the same.