

## marquette lawyers once removed

When Marquette University Law School is looking for support, it typically turns to its alumni. This makes sense, as Marquette lawyers have the greatest connections to the school and are most familiar with it. But gifts in recent years from three lawyers who are graduates of the law schools at Stanford, Harvard, and Wisconsin demonstrate the broader influence that Marquette has had.

Although their backgrounds, educations, and professional lives are different, the reason that each of these lawyers gives for choosing to contribute to Marquette Law School is the same—to honor their fathers, who all were Marquette lawyers.

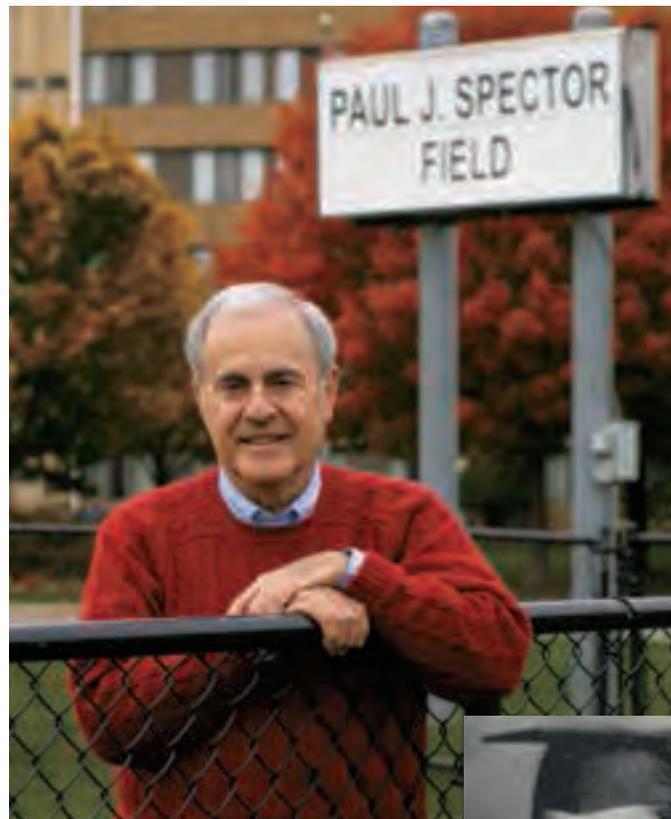
These non-alumni have all followed a generous lead set in the 1990s by Milwaukee attorney Robert L. Habush: each has stepped forward to endow a scholarship at the Law School. As described several years ago in *Marquette Lawyer*, Habush established a half-tuition scholarship to honor his father, Jesse M. Habush, who graduated from Marquette University Law School in 1930 at the beginning of the Great Depression. “He considered it a great honor to have become a lawyer,” said Bob Habush in establishing the scholarship. When Jesse Habush died, Bob endowed the scholarship in his father’s name and has continued to invest more funds in it.

“The generosity of all these donors reflects not only the love and respect that they had for their fathers,” says Dean Joseph D. Kearney, “but also the high regard they have for the profession and the process for educating tomorrow’s attorneys. I think that it says something as well about their view of Marquette Law School today.”

### A tradition of caring

Michael J. Spector earned his law degree at Harvard in 1965. From 1966 until his recent retirement, he practiced law at Quarles & Brady LLP, serving as chair of its Executive Committee from 1987 to 2002. Mike chose last year to memorialize his father, Paul J. Spector, who passed away in 1990, with the establishment of a scholarship at Marquette Law School.

Spector is explicit in his motivation: “In light of his family situ-



Michael Spector and his dad (at right), the late Paul Spector.



ation, including the illness of my grandmother, my dad could not have attended college or law school other than at Marquette. Law school in particular prepared him for a successful business career and meaningful community service. Many of his law school friends were his friends and business associates for life. He was especially appreciative of how the Marquette Jesuits and Dean Francis X. Swietlik made him—an immigrant Jewish student—feel at home in the Law School. I concluded that the best way to show my family’s gratitude to Marquette is to help students like my dad attend its law school.”

Paul Spector emigrated from Russia to the United States by way of Poland when he was ten years old. He was the youngest of four ►

children and was reared primarily by his brothers and sisters. At an early age, Paul began a lifetime of hard work by hawking newspapers at the corner of Broadway and Wisconsin in downtown Milwaukee. He graduated from North Division High School in 1928, along with his future wife, Fannie, and enrolled at Marquette as an undergraduate in 1930. During law school (1933–1936), Paul worked for the *Milwaukee Leader*.

“He woke at 4 a.m. to deliver papers to central city distribution stations, attended classes during the day, sold newspapers in the late afternoon, and studied at night,” explains the younger Spector. After graduating from law school during the worst of the Great Depression, he continued to work at the paper in positions of increasing circulation department responsibility. In 1944, after wartime work in a Milwaukee munitions plant, he switched to a career in real estate, first as the long-time manager of a sales office and then as a personal investor.

During the next 30-plus years, Paul Spector was, among other things, a founder and early president of Temple Shalom in Fox Point; an 18-year member, in turbulent times, of the Shorewood Plan Commission; and a founder and director of the First National Bank of Glendale until its purchase in 1987 by what is today US Bank. Through it all, his son notes, he was characterized by good judgment, integrity, respect for others, and a nice sense of humor, and his word was his bond.

Paul and Fannie encouraged their children, Mike and his sister Marcia, to choose challenging careers that would enable them not only to provide for their families but also to make continuing contributions to their communities, especially with respect to education. There can be no doubt that they would be proud that both children have been elected members of the Shorewood School Board and that Mike is currently a

member of the University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents.

Paul’s generosity, kindness, and unfailing fatherly and grandfatherly love are today honored by a beautiful stained-glass “tree of life” that illuminates the altar at Temple Shalom, by Shorewood’s Paul J. Spector Little League Field, and by the Marquette Law School scholarship in his name.

Mike says that he is especially pleased with this latest memorial, which will help to educate future members of the legal profession for years to come.

“Obviously, this is not merely a testament to the past. I would not have undertaken this if I did not think that, under Dean Kearney’s leadership, Marquette Law School remains committed to Milwaukee, even as it also seeks to do much else. I am excited that my father’s name is part not only of the school’s past, but of its future as well.”

#### **A tradition of excellence**

Patricia Fricker earned her law degree from the University of Wisconsin in 1988. For the past 13 years, she has been an assistant city attorney for the City of Milwaukee. She and her brother Bob, also a Wisconsin law graduate, established a scholarship at



*Patricia Fricker and her dad, the late Earle Fricker (photograph from 1988).*

Marquette Law School to honor the memory of their father, Earle W. Fricker, who graduated from Marquette Law School in 1950. “My dad was one of the finest people I’ve ever known,” says Patricia. “He taught me that you don’t ever take advantage of another’s weakness.”

Earle Fricker practiced tax and probate at his law office at 77th and Burleigh until the day he passed away of a massive heart attack while readying for work. He was 72. He and his wife had six children and, according to Patricia, they were committed to “providing for each of us the luxuries of straight teeth and an education.” Her dad’s generosity for providing for their education is returned in the gift she and her brother have made to the Law School in his memory.

Fricker chose to remember her father in this way for a variety of reasons. “The people I most admire tend to be lawyers, many of whom give tirelessly to the City of Milwaukee in a variety of ways,” she explains. “One day, I realized they are all Marquette Law School grads!” She points as well to a secondary reason: “Marquette has put so much effort into improving the part of the city that the campus occupies, and I am impressed by that.”

As Fricker moved forward with establishing the scholarship foundation, those at Marquette who helped further impressed her. “Everyone is so kind and grateful,” she says. “The integrity and compassion that permeate the faculty and staff are impressive. I am really quite pleased that this need-based scholarship will help to educate yet another Marquette lawyer.”

#### **A tradition of dedication**

A litigation attorney at one of Chicago’s leading firms, Jenner & Block, for more than 30 years, Jeff Colman is a 1973 graduate of Stanford Law School. Jeff’s family also chose to honor his father, a member of the Class of 1948, as well as his mother, by establishing the Fred B. and Rosalind Colman Scholarship. “I was able to attend law school through the extraordinary generosity of my parents,” Jeff explains. He says that the scholarship is intended to assist students in need, especially those contemplating a career in public interest law and those from diverse backgrounds.

The scholarship was established in 2000 to honor his mother and father on Fred Colman’s 80th birthday. “It was a big surprise ▶

#### **How to Establish a Scholarship**

Endowed scholarships are essential to the future of Marquette University Law School. They enable the Law School to attract—often in competition with other law schools—individuals with the intellect, values, and diversity that suggest that they will make lasting contributions to the profession and society.

With an initial gift of \$25,000, one can establish a scholarship to provide educational opportunities for such students. Because they benefit the profession and the society, scholarships are frequently named in honor or memory of a family member or a mentor.

One can fund the scholarship through gifts of cash or appreciated stock over three to five years (it can also be established as part of an estate plan). It will yield a perpetual source of income for student awards; at the \$25,000 level, the fund would annually provide a scholarship of \$1,250. Once the scholarship is established, the original donor or others have the option of continuing to direct gifts toward the fund to ensure its growth.

If you have questions or are interested in establishing a scholarship, please contact:

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*Roz Colman and the late Fred Colman (photograph from 1998), and Fred Colman in law school.*

to him, and he was very moved,” says Jeff.

“My dad was very devoted to education, learning, and Marquette, and he thought the scholarship was a wonderful thing.” Sadly, his dad passed away only three weeks later.

Fred Colman’s journey to and through law school was not an unusual one for that time.

Fred grew up in Milwaukee and attended Marquette as an undergraduate. He had already started his senior year when Pearl Harbor was bombed. Fred was able to finish his bachelor’s degree and graduated in 1942, but he then went off to war, landing on the beaches of Normandy and subsequently serving his country in northern France, Belgium, and Czechoslovakia. “The war, the Holocaust, and his love for his country were all extremely important to my father and influenced his commitments for the rest of his life,” says Jeff. Before he left for the war, Fred met Roz Mantel, the woman who would become his wife, partner, and soul mate. “During the war, he sent her cards and love notes on an almost daily basis; their love for each other was beautiful,” says their son.

Fred was also very motivated to become a lawyer. He attended Marquette Law School on the GI bill and was afforded an opportunity to complete law school on an expedited schedule, even while he was working eight-

hour late-afternoon and evening shifts managing an appliance store. Fred married Roz during law school, and before he graduated they had their first child, Jeff. After Fred completed law school, they had two more children—Gregg and Janice—who along with their families also support the scholarship. Family and friends were Fred’s most important priorities.

Fred Colman practiced law in Milwaukee for 50 years, mostly on his own, sometimes in small two- or three-person firms. “He did everything that came in the door—criminal,

civil, real estate and other transactional work. He found his practice stimulating and fulfilling,” says Jeff.

Throughout his career, Jeff recalls, his dad was someone who was passionate and committed to his work. “He really liked and cared about his clients and what he was doing. That inspired me to become a lawyer.”

Fred stayed active at Marquette, attending reunions and alumni functions and staying in touch with his great friends from law school. Like the Spector family, the Colmans are Jewish and strong supporters of Temple Shalom. Jeff believes that his father’s years of Marquette undergraduate and law school education complemented his value system. His experiences at Marquette permeated his personal and professional life. “My father was deeply committed to the less fortunate in our society and to social justice issues. Like my mom, my dad always cared passionately about education and about people who did not get treated fairly and equally. This scholarship is a small effort to symbolize what dad stood for, what my mom still cares about so much, and what Marquette Law School does for its students and the community.”

It is with deep gratitude that the Law School thanks these generous donors for helping to carry on—and expand—the tradition of the Marquette lawyer. •

