

Seattle University School of Law Digital Commons

Faculty Scholarship

1996

Tribute to James E. Beaver

Melinda J. Branscomb

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.law.seattleu.edu/faculty>

 Part of the [Legal Education Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Melinda J. Branscomb, Tribute to James E. Beaver, 19 *Seattle U.L. Rev.* xviii (1996).
<http://digitalcommons.law.seattleu.edu/faculty/167>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by Seattle University School of Law Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Faculty Scholarship by an authorized administrator of Seattle University School of Law Digital Commons.

Jim took up a lot of space, in every respect. His presence, voice, laughter, drama, and intellect all filled a room. In fact, he single-handedly held open a space for a point in time passed, a time more formal and learned, a time when books, theater, and the arts did not compete with MTV. Jim took up a lot of space, and so his passing leaves an equally large emptiness.

*John Mitchell
Clinical Professor
Seattle University School of Law*

* * *

Jim Beaver's candor was refreshing. When it came to issues, one never had to speculate about where he stood. He shared his opinions with gusto, and his opinions always were unequivocal. Yet, Jim had the ability to separate issues from persons. When it came to other individuals, he was wonderfully inclusive. He was accepting and caring. He was a kind person who did not speak negatively of others, whether or not they agreed with his beliefs. I treasured those rare qualities, and I will miss him.

*Melinda Branscomb
Associate Professor of Law
Seattle University School of Law*

* * *

MY MEMORIES OF PROFESSOR BEAVER

I worked for him for seven years as his secretary. He was so intelligent it was almost intimidating until we got to know each other. It took about 6 months for me to prove to him that I could do expertly and expeditiously what he wanted me to do. He shared with me his love for stamp collecting, his love of Turkish and Mideastern history, his love of music, and his love of books and learning in general. He was always the teacher. Any question I would ask, about a point of law in a brief I was typing or an historical comment in an article he was writing, would be answered in depth. The knowledge on whatever subject would just pour forth all the way back to 900 and 1100 A.D. sometimes. He was kind and a gentleman. He would ask about my family, how my kids were doing; he encouraged my older daughter in her schooling pursuits; he held my grandson when he was a week old; he would encourage me to pursue further education for myself saying