



## Morgan Shipman

December 4, 2008

SHIPMAN Morgan Shipman, age 75 of Worthington, unexpectedly, Wednesday, December 3, 2008 at Dublin Methodist Hospital. Full obituary to appear in The Dispatch next week. Arrangements by RUTHERFORD-CORBIN FUNERAL HOME, 515 High Street, Worthington, Ohio 43085.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Morgan Shipman*

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January 28, 2023 at 10:24 AM



“ *I know this is late, but I couldn't miss the opportunity to comment on Professor Shipman. Also, without the others having posted, I wouldn't be able to comment sufficiently. He was truly my favorite professor of all time, and would have been for any one of many reasons. He was so brilliant, such a great teacher, and so entertaining. I learned BA, Torts, Tax, ConLaw and others in just an hour a day. Outside of the class he was kind and generous, helping me prepare for the second semester exam, and providing me materials for the article I was writing for a law review credit. I'll never forget seeing him at Street Scene, while we were getting "liquid knowledge." My favorite Shipmanism was (and the drawl and pauses are essential) "just like Sherwin Williams...it covers the globe." He was kind enough to write a reference for me, as he appeared to have been for so many others. And, some years later when I saw him in the Student Union, he was kind enough to remember details about me. To me, that was truly remarkable considering the thousands of students he had. It was also quite complimentary for a man as kind and brilliant as him to remember me. Thanks for making the world better.*

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**Brian Cummings** - February 09, 2009 at 12:00 AM

PC

“ To Claire & Susannah & your families: The passages written before me are all so beautiful to read. The positive impact your father has made on so many people; people you have never met is deeply touching. I hope that you will carry wonderful memories in your hearts and always remember how special both your mother & father were. I wish I could have made it to town to attend the services. Peace be with you!, Patty

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**Patty Haller Bock, Spartanburg, South Carolina** - December 16, 2008 at 12:00 AM

IH

“ I am saddened to hear of the passing of Prof. Shipman. I remember my law school days fondly and he and Prof. Bob Lynn were two of my favorites. I'm still quoting them after all these years, you all remember about "no free lunches" and how "saying it louder does not make it true!" Peace and blessings to his family and to the friends who, like me, will always be honored to have known him. Ishraq A. Hafiz J.D., Class of 1983

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**Ishraq A. Hafiz** - December 15, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ I wish to express my heartfelt condolences to the Shipman family. I was a student of his in the late 1980s. He had that rare combination of deep intellect, common sense and good humor and I consider myself most fortunate to have had the privilege of learning from him. Many times, when faced with a difficult problem, I would -- and still do -- ask myself "How would Professor Shipman tackle this issue?". That approach has served me well over the years. I could go on and on, but I think it is sufficient to say merely that he had a profound effect on my life and the lives of many others. He is deeply missed and remembered with both deep respect and tremendous affection.

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**Matt Seyfang** - December 13, 2008 at 12:00 AM

“ My deepest sympathies to the Shipman family at this time of great loss. I also extend my deepest sympathies to the Moritz College of Law family, whom I know is saddened by the loss of "a institution" at our law school. I had the pleasue of having Professor Shipman during my first year for Property. First thing in the morning, at 9:00 a.m. four times a week. It was quite a way to start your morning! Walking into the class, you would see various "handouts" at the front of the room for collection and there would be postings all over the various chalkboards outlining the day's lecture. At that time, the Student Union was still open across the way from the law school and on my way into the law school bright and early each morning, I would see Professor Shipman seated near the window with a cup of coffee in hand reading one of his many books. If he happened to look up, he would smile and wave. One day, he later called me Mary Poppins in class since it was raining and I was carrying my umbrella. Now even time I use that umbrella I think of Professor Shipman and it brings a smile to my face. I often wondered where he went for his daily cup of coffee once the Union closed for renovation. Having Professor Shipman for Property also gave me the opportunity to do research for him for the rest of my time at Moritz. Being a Research Assistant for Professor Shipman, for me, was quite an honor, as he took an interest in me both professionally and personally. Many books were given to me with the introduction, "I read this and thought you would find it interesting". As a law student it was hard to keep up with reading for leisure, but those books are on my shelf and will be read one day. He also took an interest in me professionally, and wrote letters of recommendation on my behalf for all job applications. In fact, during a clerkship interview, a federal judge said, "Professor Shipman thinks quite highly of you based on the letter we received from him." That statement just warmed my heart that a professor would take such an interest in me as a future lawyer. Although I was unable to make the Memorial Service at the law school on Thursday due to distance, I honored Professor Shipman in my own way at work - with a Shipmanism. I was speaking to a partner at my law firm on a new assignment and I had to research jurisdiction. In response, I

*said "As a former law professor would say, we need to make sure we're in the right church, right pew, and reading the right hymnal."*

**Jennifer Storipan Class of 2007** - December 13, 2008 at 12:00 AM

K1

*“ My condolences to Professor Shipman's family. Enjoyment is not a word that comes to mind when I think of law school, but because Professor Shipman truly enjoyed teaching, we truly enjoyed his classes. I'll never forget him.*

**Kathryn Bamberger Class of 1990** - December 12, 2008 at 12:00 AM

DG

*“ Morgan: Knowing you was a pleasure and a privilege. I will miss our talks and your wise insights. Old Worthington isn't the same without you. Thank you for your friendship. Dick*

**Dick Graham** - December 11, 2008 at 12:00 AM

CS

*“ Surprised and sadden to learn of Professor Shipman's passing. His wit and humor will certainly be missed. I have great memories of his quips and quotes. It is said that if one did not have a class with Professor Shipman, then one did not possess a well-rounded legal education from the Ohio State University, College of Law! With Deepest Sympathy, Cheryl L. Sprinkle Class 1989*

**Cheryl L. Sprinkle** - December 11, 2008 at 12:00 AM

J9

*“ Without Morgan Shipman, my law school years would have been merely time spent in technical school. By taking his classes, and knowing him, it was a real education.*

**John Edward Wallace, 92'** - December 11, 2008 at 12:00 AM

B2

“ I took Property with Professor Shipman my first year of law school at Ohio State. I always enjoyed his class and benefited greatly from his knowledge and experience. He was a great professor and a genuinely nice man. Please accept my condolences.

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**Brian Smith, Class of 2008** - December 11, 2008 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ Morgan was a wonderful colleague for many years, and was my hallway neighbor for the last few years. I saw daily his devotion to students, his deep love of learning, and his commitment to the legal system. Like many others, I have a fascinating book (this one on psychology and language) that Morgan eagerly gave me because he thought it might interest me. That book is just a small token of all the special moments I spent talking with Morgan. We will all miss him.

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**Deborah Merritt** - December 11, 2008 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ As a former student and fellow Worthington resident of Morgan Shipman, I was deeply saddened to learn of his death. As a teacher, he combined an unsparing realism with a nobility of sentiment that proved uniquely inspiring to me. I will miss his presence in the community. R.I.P.

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**Robert C. Maier** - December 11, 2008 at 12:00 AM

A2

“ Prof. Shipman was an amazing teacher and mentor. He took a great interest in my professional development and personal life. When we had our one-on-one meetings at the Union, he would buy me a coffee and a cookie. Prof. Shipman's lectures were always memorable and speaking of Shipmanisms, here is one that I enjoyed -"as they say in Moscow, tough Shipinski."

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**Asha Covrett, Class of 2006** - December 10, 2008 at 12:00 AM

GT

“ Morgan was a valued colleague of mine for more than 30 years. I will miss his intellect, his humor, and his mild and but endearing eccentricity. He was one of the best read and most curious people I have ever met. My deepest sympathy to his family and friends.

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**Greg Travalio** - December 10, 2008 at 12:00 AM

RR

“ Today and for quite some time, our family and the Olde Worthington Community will be saddened by the death of Ohio State University Professor, Morgan Shipman. Mr. Shipman was truly a wonderful neighbor and member of our community. In the words written below, we strive not only to pay tribute to a beloved man and neighbor, but also challenge each other to step back, reflect and appreciate (like Mr. Shipman did so BRILLIANTLY!) what our beautiful community and city has to offer. Our family has lived across the street from Morgan Shipman for nearly 4 years. Four years is a very short time, but this time has provided our family with many blessings and many memories of a man who loved his community and loved us as neighbors. Mr. Shipman consistently took a real interest in the activities of our family and especially our 5 children. In fact, it is through our children that we were so blessed to get to know Mr. Shipman. We will never forget the time that Mr. Shipman inquisitively approached us as the kids piled out of the car after returning from Taekwondo. Perhaps it was 6 people dressed in brilliant, bright white outfits and colorful belts that caught Morgan’s attention, but we believe and know it was really Morgan taking an interest in what the kids were learning and experiencing together. That day, Morgan spent quite a while talking with us about Taekwondo and wanted to hear what the kids were learning. We will never forget Mr. Shipman persistently knocking on our door and ringing our door bell (several times in a very short period of time) to inform the kids that he would be out of town. He wanted the kids to gather his mail until he returned. We repeatedly turned down the \$20 he gave to them in exchange, but he insisted and asked us to make sure the children learned the value of hard work, completing a task and receiving income / a reward in return. We will never forget our kids delight and giggles after returning from his home one December evening last year (around Christmas) when they dropped off a gift of home made Cinnamon Glazed Pecans that they baked for Mr. Shipman. Our daughter delightfully quoted Mr. Shipman’s response to their gift---he said (in his classic accented, deep voice) “Oh My God! I love these Pecans” he then immediately and abruptly closed the door and turned off the light – we are certain he simply

*couldn't wait to get back to reading/finishing his book while enjoying the pecans the kids had made for him. Finally, we just learned from one of Morgan's very closest friends that he was reading several books about Home Schooling. Mr. Shipman consistently asked us how the days were going with our kids and how we structure days of schooling at home. I guess this shouldn't have come as a surprise as Mr. Shipman loved teaching his Law students at Ohio State. Perhaps he found a real connection with us and the privilege we have of educating our children at home for a time. Mr. Shipman was one of the most knowledgeable and well read people we have ever known or met. Mr. Shipman loved his community and participated in ALL Olde Worthington has to offer. Many in Olde Worthington may not have had the opportunity to meet or speak with Mr. Shipman, but if you have spent any time on the streets and in the businesses and restaurants of Olde Worthington, you probably would recognize him well. We took a few minutes to contact the wonderful people who work in the businesses of Olde Worthington and learned just a little about what Mr. Shipman meant to them. Perhaps you saw Mr. Shipman enjoying breakfast or lunch on the porch of The Worthington Inn (649 High St.). I saw him often on the front porch as he enjoyed an elegant breakfast or lunch. In speaking with the Worthington Inn staff, I learned that he came there for breakfast and/or lunch 2-3 times per week. We also recently learned from one of Morgan's closest friends that he had a standing dinner reservation EVERY Saturday night at Table # 23 at the Worthington Inn. If you haven't gone there for Sunday Brunch or dinner...do so soon...it is a treat! Perhaps you wandered*

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**Richard Ranck** - December 10, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JE

“ I was a research assistant for Professor Shipman during the '93-94 academic year. When I began a summer associate position with a New Jersey firm, one of the partners told me that he had taken a class with Professor Shipman when he was at NYU and that it was the most meaningful class of that partner's law school experience.

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**Janet Epp** - December 10, 2008 at 12:00 AM

SR

“ I only knew Mr. Shipman for a few short months. I had the privilege of meeting him and his lovely daughters when Mr. Shipman was admitted to our Assisted Living Facility. I knew from our first meeting that he was a special individual. He had a notable presence. The staff at Trillium Place is sorry for the loss of this great man and our deepest sympathies to Claire, Suzanne, and Jill. As I read the amazing entries from his former students, I only wish we could have spent more time with him.

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**Sarah Jones, RN** - December 10, 2008 at 12:00 AM

A2

“ It is with deepest sympathy and a heavy heart that I say farewell to Professor Shipman. Of all of my law school professors, Professor Shipman instilled in me a strange mix of utter fear yet fascination and anticipation as a first year student in his Torts class and again as a second year student in his year long Business Association class. He was pure brilliance....at times, so brilliant that it was just plain confusing. But I have never laughed so hard or so often yet learned so much in any law school class as I did in Professor Shipman's classes. And not only was he a brilliant mind but he was an amazing mentor to me.....taking the time to review resumes and offer assistance in the interviewing process and later to become a reference. I am forever grateful for the law school experience he gave me and he will be greatly missed by all who have been lucky enough to have known him. Heaven is now a better place.

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**Amy Henn Blair (Class of 2001)** - December 10, 2008 at 12:00 AM

BT

“ As a long time friend of Jill's I know of what a great man Morgan was from her long relationship with him. I am so happy I had the opportunity to meet him on a rare visit to Columbus. He was everything Jill said he was. I was struck by his intellect and vast knowledge of the world in general. I know how much he will be missed by Jill and his family. Jill speaks endlessly of his wonderful daughters she has grown to know. I send you all my deepest sympathy.

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**Bonnie F. John El Paso, TX** - December 10, 2008 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ *Morgan Shipman was one of the finest teachers I have ever known. It is hard to put into words what a difference he made in my time at Ohio State, and in my career beyond the classroom. So many of us loved and respected him. In a field rife with inflated egos, he was genuine and humble, though his accomplishments gave ample reason for him to be otherwise. Gentle and kind, he cared deeply about his students, often taking under his wing those of us who showed some glimmer of promise, despite mediocre grades. I fondly remember his warm personality, his Texas accent, his endearing sense of humor, his fatherly concern for us. He was a rare gem. I am so much better for having known him, and in many ways I owe whatever professional success I've had to him. I am deeply grateful for his instruction and encouragement, for his humble and simplistic nature, and mostly for his integrity and kindness.*

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**Ronda Anderson Shamansky** - December 09, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MP

“ *To the family of Morgan Shipman: I work at the Student Book Exchange on campus. Professor Shipman was a regular at our store and someone we very much enjoyed. He was always kind and witty and liked to engage all of us in the debates of the day. Personally he was the smartest person I ever knew. You could talk to him about anything and what made that so special was that he was also a great listener--although sometimes you had to shout to be heard. He was a wise and generous person who always brought alot of joy to our day. He will be greatly missed. We're very sorry for your loss. We just wanted you to know that. SBX Staff*

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**Mr. Price** - December 09, 2008 at 12:00 AM

BK

“ To say that Professor Shipman has had a positive effect on my life would be an understatement. I was privileged to have had Professor Shipman in four of my six semesters at The Ohio State College of Law. Many of the lessons he taught I not only utilize myself but I have begun to pass on to my staff. Thank you Professor Shipman, you not only have made me a better attorney, but a better person.  
*Bryan Koeppe Ohio State College of Law (Class of 2000) Atlanta, GA*

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**Bryan Koeppe** - December 09, 2008 at 12:00 AM

AC

“ I took Professor Shipman's year long Business Associations class, and I am grateful for everything he taught me and the class. My prayers to the family, and may God be with you during this difficult time. *Alex Cortes*

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**Alejandro V. Cortes** - December 08, 2008 at 12:00 AM

TT

“ I'm so sorry for your loss and for future OSU law students who will never have the opportunity to learn from Professor Shipman. He was one of the best teachers I've ever had. Not only did he teach substantive law, he also taught the practicality of it, and of course, he did it in a way that was endlessly entertaining. You never knew what he would say next, and that was why he engaged his students so much. Professor Shipman made any topic come alive through humor and a god-given talent for teaching. He will be greatly missed.

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**Tracey Ballard Tangeman** - December 08, 2008 at 12:00 AM

CJ

“ *Professor Shipman was not only a great professor, but a great person. He will be sorely missed. My condolences are with his family.*

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**Calvin Platten Jr.** - December 08, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MH

“Morgan Shipman Professor Morgan Shipman, our loved one is gone, but we won't forget, his smile, his laugh, his face, his grace, the good times, the bad times, the fears, the tears, and his wonderful knowledge and wisdom. When someone we love passes away, we ache, but we go on; our dear Professor Shipman would want us to heal, not mourn. I have to keep telling myself that he is looking down upon us saying please don't cry, be strong, because growing old isn't for wimps! I know grief is a normal way to mend the anguish and pain in our hearts; but I know I as well as others will need time to remember and time to mourn, before the recovery starts, so let's draw together to recuperate, as we go through this period of sorrow; let's help each other, with tender care to find a brighter tomorrow. Morgan If we could bring you back again, for one more hour or day, we'd express all our unspoken love; we'd have countless things to say. If we could bring you back again, we'd say we treasured you, and that your presence in our lives, in my life, meant more than anyone would ever know. If we could bring you back again, to tell you what we should, you'd know how much we miss you now, and always. I know you're in a better place right now; all your pain is gone; you're now at rest; nothing will trouble you anymore. Professor Shipman is someone who is truly a blessing from God; someone whom was a beloved mentor to literally thousands of people. Morgan was full of compassion, love and understanding. Morgan did and always will hold a very special place in my heart! I loved him dearly and enjoyed every bit of working with him on a professional and personal level. He was like a grandfather to me, and I feel very blessed to be able to have encountered a relationship with such a wonderful man! Professor Shipman, We loved you well! One thing for sure I know I will reconnect with you at the end of life's road! Love Always and Forever Malako and Malik!

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Malako Hampton - December 08, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ My sincere condolences to your family. I had Professor Shipman for two classes at Moritz College. The second was an Advanced Securities class (mergers and acquisitions) in 1990-91. I went on to a career in mergers and acquisitions. His instruction was so relevant to the real world - unbelievably practical and true. But he did more than teach - he created a passion in his students. He willed us to dig deep into the material. He was truly an inspiration to many.

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**J.V. Wulf** - December 08, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ I will miss my brother terribly, but because of my age and health my wife and I are unable to attend. We want to express to the family how much we miss them and are sorry we cannot be there with them at this time of loss. Love, Al and Dixie

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**Mr. & Mrs. A.O. Shipman** - December 08, 2008 at 12:00 AM

O2

“ Every chance I had to take a class with Professor Shipman I jumped at it! He was probably the best professor I had. I learned more from him than any other professor I have had while at Moritz. Professor Shipman would always go above and beyond what was required on the curriculum to ensure that we were prepared for the practice of law. My most recent class with him was over the summer semester 2008. I will always remember his wit and "shipmanisms" during class. He was able to take a rather dull subject and make it exciting. What was most impressive was that he lectured for every class and all of his information was a stream of consciousness. He did not bring any notes or presentations with him - he just knew the materials inside and out. He always made sure he was available to us should we have any questions and he always treated us with the utmost kindness and respect. I am truly saddened to learn of his passing and law school will not be the same without him.

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**Octavia Donnelly (Class of 2009)** - December 08, 2008 at 12:00 AM

GW

“ When I heard the news of Professor Shipman’s passing, to say that I was shocked would be an understatement. In my mind, Professor Shipman was a permanent fixture at The Ohio State University Michael E. Moritz College of Law. If you needed him, on almost any given day, you could probably find him in his office working comfortably among--arguably underneath--piles and piles of scholarly works, roaming Drinko Hall, or walking to the student union in search of a fresh cup of coffee. Even though I have not lived in Columbus for years, I took it for granted that Professor Shipman would always be with us, and that, as one his former students, I could reach out to him for counsel and advice whenever I needed to do so. In mourning the loss of Professor Shipman, I find comfort in the words of Ellen Brenneman, which impart the same wisdom and insight that Professor Shipman routinely shared with his students: "We can't know why the lily has so brief a time to bloom in the warmth of the sunlight's kiss upon its face before it folds its fragrance in and bids the world goodnight to rest its beauty in a gentler place. But we know that nothing that is loved is ever lost, and no one who has ever touched a heart can really pass away, because some beauty lingers on in each memory of which they've ever been a part." Although Professor Shipman is no longer physically with us, neither he nor his teachings (e.g., "The law is a seamless web!") will ever be forgotten. He will live in our hearts and minds forever. Gary D. Williams, Class of 2001 Columbia, Maryland

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**Gary D. Williams** - December 08, 2008 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ Although it has been six years since I sat in Professor Shipman's Torts class, his colorfully worded golden nuggets of wisdom still echo in my mind whenever I struggle in the practice of law. Therefore, I join those mourning the death of Morgan Shipman and the loss of a brilliant legal mind, an uncontainable personality, and a down-to-earth good-hearted man; yet I know that his wisdom lives on and is at this moment spreading across the globe through the lives, like mine, that he has so powerfully touched.

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**Cailin Chrismer** - December 08, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MJ

“ Professor Shipman was my favorite professor at Moritz, and I enjoyed working with him for the year I spent in the dean's office back in the '90s. The legal world -- and the Columbus community -- have lost an incredible person. Those of us lucky enough to learn from him will never forget him. My condolences to his family and loved ones.

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**Mary Ellen Jenkins** - December 08, 2008 at 12:00 AM

D'

“ Professor Shipman was my favorite professor in law school. Property was not even his main subject, but his Property lectures were brilliant and inspiring. Because Prof. Shipman wove in threads from all areas of the law into his famous "seamless web," all my first year classes seemed to come together in his Property class and that was where it all began to make sense. I also worked as Prof. Shipman's TA for Accounting for Lawyers, and so had the privilege of attending another set of his lectures, doing a bit of research for him, and getting to know him a little better. He was a walking encyclopaedia of the law, had a tremendous sense of humor, and a kind and generous heart. I knew he would teach until he could teach no more, and that is what he did. While those of us who knew him in the 2000s may have missed him in his prime, he was still an amazing lecturer and I feel privileged to have been just one of the thousands of students who learned the law at the feet of the master. "Once a king always a king..."

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Derek Heyman Class of '08 - December 08, 2008 at 12:00 AM

J1

“ To this day, 40 years after he taught me, I still say "are you with me?" when I get the quizzical looks during a discussion; I vividly remember him saying that to me often back then. May his family take some comfort in knowing that he touched so many of us with his gift for teaching.

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Joe D'Arrigo, Moritz Law Class of 1970 - December 07, 2008 at 12:00 AM

DR

“ My admiration for Professor Shipman knows no bounds. He was a dear friend and mentor. I worked for Professor Shipman while attending Ohio State and benefitted from his wisdom, good humor, and willingness to help a student prepare for a life in the law. He was a fantastic teacher, a great confidant, and wrote me the best letter of recommendation I could have ever asked for. My success as a judicial clerk and young law firm associate are due in no small part to Professsor Shipman's advice and guidance. I will forever remember our weekly meetings at the Student Union, talking over the issues of the day or the necessary work to be done for his property and accounting classes. Professor Shipman, pipe in hand, had the uncanny ability to speak on so many subjects, his insights keen, sharp, and witty. Thanks Professor Shipman. May God bless you and your family. Darren Reid Ohio State Moritz College of Law 2003-2006

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**Darren Reid** - December 07, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ I would like to express my heartfelt sympathy to Morgan Shipman's family. Thank you for sharing him with all of us. I was one of his students in the early 1970's and his lessons, sayings and witticisms will be with me (and thousands of others) forever. He was admired, respected and loved by those of us who had the privilege of being his students and we share your deep loss. May he rest in peace.

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**John T. Mills('73)** - December 07, 2008 at 12:00 AM

HJ

“ Deepest condolences from the Acosta family in El Paso, Texas. Farewell to a wonderful person and legal scholar.

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**Humberto (Beto) Acosta Jr.** - December 07, 2008 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ Even though law is a discipline of words, appropriate words expressing the impact of Professor Shipman's loss now fail me. I was a 1972 graduate, when females were few and our anxiety-level extreme. Professor Shipman, however, made me believe that, whatever the academic and social demands I could do it. He was the consummate, professional law professor, demanding as heck, but unfailingly courteous and comforting to all. But, the greatest compliment I can give him is that I have now been teaching law for over twenty years. I truly love what I do, as I now know he did. I can only dream that someday some student will write I had a similar impact on him or her as Professor Shipman did on me.

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**Diane D. Hathaway** - December 07, 2008 at 12:00 AM

CJ

“ I offer my condolences to Professor Shipman's family and his "family" of admirers. Like others, I willingly subjected myself to the overwhelming burdens of Professor Shipman's Business Associations course. It was a rite of passage, and a small price to pay for the wisdom and entertainment imparted in every class. And the wisdom was not limited to business law. Professor Shipman took us on a guided tour of human nature, teaching us to practice with "belt and suspenders" and beware the follies of Moneybags, B-Bank, and other stock characters emerging from our casebooks (or the extra volumes of photocopied materials we just HAD to have...) I do not know anyone who did not stand in awe of Professor Shipman, but I am pleased so many remember him for who he was outside the classroom. He was a genuine, decent person who would go out of his way to help others. He would ask you if you could use a letter of recommendation, then write one so flattering you almost hired yourself on the spot. And he was utterly lacking in pretension. He was quick to join students having coffee in the union or haute cuisine from the fine dining establishments on High Street. He was just as pleased to have companionship in peripatetic mode, dispensing wisdom as he strolled around campus with the ever-present book in his hand. It was easy to identify his car in the parking lot. It was the Chrysler K car with so many books in the back seat area you wondered how the driver could see out the rear window. Professor Shipman's passing is a great loss. He will never be forgotten. He was well-loved, and his life well-lived.

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**Charles Jakob** - December 07, 2008 at 12:00 AM

CL

“ My deepest sympathy to you! Those who were students of Professor Shipman tell me he was the best-an inspiration to everyone he taught! Carol Luper WSYX-TV ABC6 Columbus

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**Carol Luper** - December 07, 2008 at 12:00 AM

WM

“ by far one the top 2 or 3 profs in the early 70's "there is no such thing as a free lunch"

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**william mcintyre** - December 06, 2008 at 12:00 AM

PH

“ Morgan Shipman was a member of the faculty for many of the years I was on the staff at the OSU College of Law. He was extremely well liked by his fellow colleagues, students and staff. He was proud of his daughters and we spoke often of our girls as my daughter went to WHS as did his girls. He will be missed by many.

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**Pat Johnson Howard** - December 06, 2008 at 12:00 AM

SK

“ Morgan Shipman was the very first professor I experienced my first day of law school in 1977. He taught federal income tax and was a masterful instructor.

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**Shirley Schwartz Klocek** - December 06, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JE

“ Most of my friends know him as "The Prince". Morgan was a prince of a man and the prince of my heart. He was all about books and Morgan was the finest chapter of my life as you could imagine. I had the marvelous opportunity of dating him for 11 years. He was all about knowledge and wisdom. So it was only natural to ask a former student to write him a birthday card for his 75th on Dec. 4th. This message from Paula-Penn Nabrit that he never got to read. Dear Professor Shipman, Happy Birthday! I'm not certain if I have ever expressed the depth of my regard and respect for you. You were, without a doubt, one of the finest and most inspiring teachers I have ever experienced. Your intellectual intensity and integrity continue to be an inspiration-as are you "Shipman-isms" including my favorite "Never complain when wisdom comes late because sometimes it never comes at all" Law school was a big adjustment from Wellesley but your ethics seminar lecture series made me certain about staying at Ohio State. Truthfully I wasn't that interested in tax and securities-but I focused in those areas because of you. Thank you for the enormous challenges you consistently offered and Best Wishes on this birthday! Fondest Regards, Paula-Penn Nabrit P.S. Yes, this was written in BLACK ink. Morgan you will continue to dazzle me forever. Love always, your friend Jill

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jill ensminger - December 06, 2008 at 12:00 AM

RD

“ The world is smaller without Morgan Shipman. When I think of my years at OSU, Morgan Shipman is one of the first professors I recall. He was a great teacher. My condolences to his family.

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Rose Ann Dabek - December 06, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JO

“ Professor Shipman was my favorite professor at OSU College of Law (Class of '80). I took Legal Accounting from him during the summer of '79 more for him than for the subject matter, but imagine this, I still use some of the knowledge imparted to this day as General Counsel of a Panasonic HQ in the U.S. I still quote him without attribution with phrases like: "The uh, long and uh, the short of it is..."; and, "Sometimes the bulls win, sometimes the bears win, but the pigs never win". I took 4 courses from him in law school, just because he was so fascinating to learn from. He regaled us with great stories from his days under LBJ and his SEC experiences. The world is a less humorous and wise place without him. I have followed his daughter Claire's (sp?) career in TV reporting and see such a resemblance that she always reminds me of him. I hope that his family can take comfort in the great number of lives that he touched for the better--you can't pay a man a much better compliment than that. Fondly, Jim Olsen [jolsen@us.pewg.panasonic.com](mailto:jolsen@us.pewg.panasonic.com)

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**Jim Olsen** - December 06, 2008 at 12:00 AM

J'

“ Professor Shipman sayings echo with me in areas far beyond the Business Accounting that he taught me. He used to say that a company that was struggling to stay afloat could be at its greatest risk right as things were looking better. Decades later I've heard his voice saying this when I'm working through a challenge. For me, Professor Shipman served as a gatekeeper for the profession of law - a domain of serious thinking and study with real consequences, coupled with humor and the calling to help society.

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**Jim Payne '84** - December 06, 2008 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ I would like to send my sincere condolences to Professor Shipman's family. I was a student in his class in 1982 or 1983. I took his class knowing that he gave more homework than the other professors teaching at the Law School. I had two older friends who advised me to take his class, because the extra work was worth it to have Professor Shipman. They were correct! I still am glad that I took his class, even though I only practiced Law for four years and I never practiced Tax Law. Professor Shipman didn't just give a lot of homework so he could say his classes were tough. Ant body can do that. He didn't assign busy work. The assignments Professor Shipman gave were given because they helped you understand the material, and the subject matter. I was not interested in practicing Tax Law, or in Tax Law in general. However I was interested in understanding the subject matter he was teaching, because somehow he made me want to understand it. He was that good! Rest in Peace Professor Shipman. I didn't have any Professor at any level of my education that I respected more than him, and I have four degrees. May The Lord take Professor Shipman swiftly home to Heaven with him. Respectfully Submitted, Tony Mollica

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**Tony Mollica** - December 06, 2008 at 12:00 AM

A2

“ I had the honor of taking two classes with Professor Shipman during my time at Moritz - Property and Accounting. On the first day of Property, I was terrified of him, after the way he gruffly said, "Can we get started, please?" I quickly lost my fear. He was one of the kindest professors that I have ever had, and I still remember the pride I felt at giving him the exact answer he was looking for when he came down my row. I will always remember the classic "Shipmanisms" that he taught us (especially "Keep your pants zipped and your fountain pens dry"). My condolences to the Shipman family.

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**Abbie, Class of 2008** - December 06, 2008 at 12:00 AM

DT

“ Please accept my heartfelt condolences for your loss. I attended Moritz as a non-traditional student and was 44 years old when I encountered Professor Shipman. We often shared time outside the Moritz building; him with a pipe and me, a cigarette contemplating the differences in his generation, mine and the 600 current Moritz students. As a former corporate officer, we had great discussions about Eron and other bad behavior in the workplace. He gave me more homework than any human could digest, more books than I could carry and more wisdom than I could have received anywhere else. I adored him and now pray that God will welcome his into His paradise with the salutation "Well done!" Respectfully, Diane Thomas, Esq. '03

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**Diane Thomas** - December 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

S2

“ *The world is smaller today with the passing of Professor Shipman, a beloved mentor to literally thousands of Ohio State law students among whom I feel blessed to count myself. That his wit and wisdom, and also his vast stores of knowledge, will no longer grace the minds of future law students diminishes all who cherish our profession. Yet his words---ably blending the Socratic heights with the common vernacular and sounded in his unmistakable tobacco-cured baritone---will remain steadfast in our hearts for the remainder of our lives. Those uncommon words of wisdom (his 'Shipmanisms' as they were sometimes called) rendered portable his principles, making his voice a kind of second conscience, a Texan Jiminy Cricket on call for life's toughest decisions. Still do I hear his voice. A heartfelt believer who had widely researched his and other faiths (as he researched all things), he could recite at length the fine points of theology, but was most impressive when he summoned simple truths with the lucid exactness peculiar to him. I can not doubt that such a soul will meet his Creator with mutual affection... though I would also not be surprised if in the end he could not resist dishing out to the immortal that same sage advice which Morgan bestowed so freely upon us mortals who today mourn his passing. Farewell Morgan Shipman, you sweet wise soul! We loved you well.*

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**Scott R. Belhorn, Ohio State Law School, Class of 2005** - December 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

CP

“ *I started at the Law School in 1981 and worked with Prof. Shipman for several years as his secretary. For many years he would bring in a doz. yellow roses for Secretary's Day. He also said they were the "Yellow Roses of Texas." I will never forget how kind Prof. Shipman was. He met my son (than age 5) in 1986. Ever since than Prof. Shipman always asks how he is doing. Prof. Shipman will be greatly missed by all the staff at the Law School. Carol Peirano*

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**Carol Peirano** - December 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

M2

“ *What a loss! You will be missed.*

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**Martine Jean Class of 2002** - December 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ *My sincere sympathy to the family. Morgan Shipman was one of the very best professors. He taught his students to have integrity, and he really cared about us. I am sad to learn of his passing. May you know God's peace in this time -- Joan Grant*

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**Joan Grant** - December 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

D'

“ *Like most of Professor Shipman's former students (and I am honored to be one), I could probably write a book about my memories of him. I'll limit myself to two: one professional and one personal. Professionally, Professor Shipman was a hero and inspiration to those of us who are allergic to the postmodernism and political correctness that has infected higher education. Said Professor Shipman: "They have [courses in] 'Men in the Law' . . . 'Women in the Law' . . . why don't they just have 'Law in the Law'?" Personally, one day during my first year, I went to the United Dairy Farmers across the street from the law school to grab a cup of coffee and do some reading. (I was probably catching up on my reading for Professor Shipman's torts class . . . he liked to assign LOTS of reading.) A few minutes later, Professor Shipman walked in, got a cup of coffee, walked over to my table, and said, "May I join you?" I, of course, said yes. We sat and talked for 15 minutes or so about law school, current events, and nothing in particular. In that simple gesture, Professor Shipman showed his respect for others (especially a lowly 1L), his humanity, and, above all, his essentially goodness. Morgan Shipman was a hell of a man. He will be missed. R.I.P.*

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**David V. Patton, '99** - December 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

“ There are so many wonderful memories of Professor Shipman, but my favorite is definitely the story of his mutual admiration society with my mother, Rosalie Gellman. In 1985, my mother came from Milwaukee for a visit, and she wanted to sit in on a law school class with me. The only class I had that day was Prof. Shipman’s Business Associations class. She insisted that we ask his permission first, so we went to his office. He graciously said she was most welcome, and chatted with her the couple of minutes before class began. She loved the lecture (and I think she understood more than I did). Over the years, whenever I would bump into Prof. Shipman, he would always greet me warmly and ask after my family. I don’t know how he even knew my children’s and husband’s names and interests to begin with, but he remembered them year after year. And he always asked how my mother was doing: “She’s a vahry braht woman! Vahry braht!” he would say, although he had only spoken to her that one brief time. She always asked about him, too, for some reason preferring to call him “the judge.” I guess they both recognized each other’s special intelligence. One day early in the summer of 1999, I happened to be talking to Prof. Shipman, and I told him the news that my mother was preparing to start law school in the fall (at age 70). He was delighted and asked me to convey his best wishes. A couple of days later, he appeared at my office downtown with a big shopping bag from the student book store. In the bag were four books about the study of law for my mother. He made me sit with a legal pad for half an hour while he dictated detailed instructions about what order to read the books in and what sections were particularly important. He brushed away my protests about the expense of the gift: “No, those are old, from my own library.” I pretended to believe him, even though a bookstore receipt – from an hour earlier – was still in the bag. Rosalie was absolutely thrilled by the gift, sent him a big box of Wisconsin cheese, and read all the books before September came. I don’t know if those books are what made the difference, but she did very well in law school, even finishing ahead of schedule. When I heard the sad news this week, she was the first one I called, and she was so sorry to hear of the passing of someone she admired so

*much – as we all did. The whole Gellman & Chomsky family sends our condolences to the family of our friend. May he rest in peace. - Susan Gellman '86*

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**Susan Gellman** - December 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ *All my sympathies to the family of one of the best professors in my educational experience ( 1973-1975). Morgan Shipman brought a real world view to the understanding of tax policy and its reflection of our societal consciousness/unconsciousness.He helped one to understand the threads of society that run through our tax code....and he exposed the secrets of analysis one needs to either interpret those threads or weave them together to bring about change.I have often thought " How would he view this particular issue and what would the other side say in response. It was an honor to have enjoyed his lectures and the knowledge he imparted. I hope that I have been able to live up to his standards when given the opportunity. Marshall Bell*

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**marshall Bell** - December 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

M1

“ I am awed by the preceding entries in this guestbook, of students who followed me at OSU Law and who experienced the same superlative teaching and mentoring that I experienced when I had the privilege of sitting in his lectures from 1975 to 1977. Apparently he was just as inspiring over the last 30 years as he was when I was on High Street! But I guess that was the kind of man he was, totally dedicated to others, to his students, to the law. I recall him taking time in the early 80s to have breakfast with my classmate Woody Rowland and me in the Bay area when he was a guest professor at Boalt Hall -- never too busy for his students or former students. He was clearly the most inspiring professor I had in law school, and due to his influence I have concentrated my practice in securities and corporate law my entire career. Rest in peace, dear Professor.

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**Mark Barnes, OSU Law Class of 1977** - December 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

KH

“Yes, Virginia, There is a Santa Claus.” It is with that warmth and passion that Professor Shipman taught all of us who shared the wonderful opportunity to learn from his insight and perspective. Morgan Shipman set the standards for both wisdom and practicality in the application of legal thought. The guidance that he provided through his lectures transcended the classroom and was not confined to the established core curriculum. There is a great appreciation shared by my classmates that Morgan provided us with well honed tools that we could rely upon in all areas of life and the practice we would so choose. Beyond his greatness as a legal scholar, he imparted upon his students his enduring devotion to his family. Yes, Claire and Suzannah, we too saw Morgan Shipman, the father. While perhaps better known for his focus, critical thought, straight face, and sparkle in his eye, nothing was more certain to bring a smile to Morgan’s face than a story about his daughters. To hear such a great man chuckle as to his telephone response of “DEF,” often made to his daughter when she would answer the phone “ABC,” as she worked at the American Broadcasting Company – there was no room for doubt that Morgan E. Shipman was just as great of a family man. On June 9, 2008, I had the distinguished pleasure of visiting with Professor Shipman in the evening where I discovered him sitting in a chair in his driveway behind his home reading the newspaper. He was always more than willing to share advice, insight and guidance. Those warm receptions will truly be missed by all of us. I am very thankful for that privilege and opportunity to have learned from him. For those he has touched, our memories of him will be forever lasting. In this regard, our thoughts of him will continue on, as part of that great wisdom that he bestowed upon us from “time immemorial.”

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Kevin E. Humphreys - December 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

FM

“ Initially, Morgan Shipman was, in 1977, a fearful and awesome figure, at least to the first year students of the class of 1980. However, once we learned that he truly loved teaching, that he loved his subject matter, and that he loved students, we could relax and focus on learning from this great master. Most of us took every course he taught and we tried to be around him as much as possible. He will be sorely missed but he will be long remembered. Morgan Shipman's great legacy is that he sent many young minds into this world with a profound respect for people as well as the law.

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**Frederick Meister** - December 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

FT

“ My sincerest condolences to the Shipman family on the loss of a truly great man. While he was a demanding professor, the life lessons he taught have stuck with me forever. Who can forget the "smell test". His memory will endure forever.

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**Frank Top** - December 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

NH

“ I am very sorry to hear of Professor Shipman's passing. I had him for several classes in law school at Ohio State. I always learned the topics thoroughly and had a huge respect for him as both a teacher and an individual. He will be missed by many. Nick Hennessy  
Bowling Green State University

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**Nick Hennessy** - December 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MR

“ My sympathies to your family for the great loss. He was Professor Shipman to me, and I will never forget him. I cussed him during law school, for the outrageously extensive reading assignments, but I learned boatloads. The notes I took in his classes didn't make any sense until I'd been in practice for a few years. Then they were valuable! God Bless Morgan.

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**Maryellen Corna Reash** - December 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ I learned so much in Professor Shipman's Business Associations class. Perhaps the most profound and enduring lesson had nothing to do with law. I came unprepared to his class on successive days and he absolutely lambasted me in front of the class after the second occurrence. I talked to him afterwards and, of course, he was so kind and even apologetic. He answered my questions in great detail and told me he yelled at me only because he wanted me to understand the material and didn't want others to think they could get by without reading the material. I never came unprepared to another class and received a stellar grade as a result. After that, he always stopped and spoke to me. I'll always remember him for the lambasting, but more importantly for the lesson of preparedness.

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**Martin** - December 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

A1

“ It is hard to imagine the world without Professor Shipman. As the nightmare scenario that is Wall Street in 2008 has unfolded, I have often wondered what Professor Shipman would have said about it. Certainly, his favorite aphorism -- Sometimes the bulls win, sometimes the bears win, but the pigs get slaughtered -- would have been on point. He was kind and thoughtful and endlessly curious about the human condition and never without a word of encouragement for each and every last pathetic one of us. For all of the conscious efforts that other lawyers made to serve as exemplars for us -- especially for the women students (of which there were so few), Morgan Shipman's example -- of disciplined intellectual prowess combined with unstinting self-criticism -- while the quietest example, was also the best example. Thank you Morgan -- and Godspeed.

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**Adrienne Lalak Deckman (Class of 1978)** - December 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

KM

“ I am a 1991 grad of the Ohio State Law School. I took a course from Professor Shipman one summer. Professor Shipman took the time to get to know me and discuss my plans for the future. He contacted several friends and colleagues in the area that I planned to live in after graduation and made introductions for me. Going outside the classroom to help in my professional development was beyond what was expected of Professor Shipman, but he was glad to do it. I appreciated the helping hand. It taught me the value of kindness and mentoring. I will remember Professor Shipman with fondness and gratitude. My deepest sympathy to his family on his passing.

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**Kimberly Hite Mayhew** - December 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

BK

“ I graduated from OSU Law in 1971. I worked for Deloitte & Touche in the tax function for 32 years. For me his classes were the most interesting. He also was a very nice person. He somehow helped you get to the correct answer when he called on you in class even when you did not know what you were talking about. He certainly had a positive influence on my life. Bill Keadey

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**Bill Keadey** - December 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

J1

“ Morgan Shipman was simply the finest law school professor I ever had. I took every class I could with him. He supervised my independent study project in my third year and pushed me extremely hard to produce a product worthy of being read. He has provided me with an endless series of analogies to be used with clients and my colleagues. Allow me to share a couple here (even though reading these bare words off a computer screen, devoid of his idiosyncratic pauses and soft Texas drawl, drains much of the impact out of them): "What about the little old lady in tennis shoes?" (as the person who needs to be protected by appropriate disclosures in a securities offering); "Sometimes, if you want to play hardball, you'll get the bat crammed down your throat" (for those clients who don't always consider the possible reaction to their proposed aggressive actions); "I know this is an Income Tax class but you have to understand \_\_\_\_\_ (pick the substantive area of law Prof. Shipman was holding forth on at the moment) in order to understand income tax!" He was a great man and a dear friend. When we saw each other after my graduation (even many years afterward) he always remembered where I was working and inquired about other students of his with my firm. Whatever professional success I have been able to achieve must be largely attributed to his influence.

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**Jamie Ryan, Class of 1985** - December 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

TE

“ Thank You Professor Shipman. No Teacher or Professor that I ever had did more to push me to reach my potential than you did. Maybe I didn't always enjoy that process at the time, but it has certainly stood me in good stead throughout my life. You have done a lot for me in that way and I am deeply appreciative for that. You will be sorely missed by so many. Thank you. Todd Emoff, J.D., O.S.U. 1982

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**Todd Emoff** - December 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ It was very sad to hear of Professor Shipman's passing. I had Professor Shipman for two classes at The Ohio State Law School and to this day remember those classes, as difficult as they were, with fond memories all because of him. He was brilliant, entertaining, engaging, and just made you want to be as good a lawyer as he was. He had the capacity to explain complex matters in simple ways and made learning a joy. He was a great teacher. May his Soul rest in peace.

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**Reginald Momah** - December 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

VI

“ I can't believe it has been 23 years since I sat in his Torts class anxiously waiting to be called on by him and yet perplexed as to why he skipped over me as he went down my row. I went to speak with him in his office about what I could possibly have done as a first semester first year. I wondered whether it was a sign that perhaps the law was not for me. The man I found in his office was so different from the imposing presence in the classroom. Professor Shipman was a warm, generous and caring man. We laughed as he explained his difficulty at pronouncing my last name. He hinted, with a twinkle in his eye and smile on his face, that perhaps I should be extra prepared for class the following day. During that brief encounter in his office so many years ago, I became firmly entrenched in the profession I have enjoyed ever since; and I continue to carry within me today, the confidence he instilled in me that I had made the right choice after all. I hope God is prepared to be called on by Professor Shipman.

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Vince Iuliano - December 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

RN

“ Professor Shipman made securities law (a field in which I had and have no interest) so fascinating that I took every class he taught. He demanded a lot from his students, but gave us back much more. He is one of the two finest teachers I had the fortune to learn from. His legacy to the community is several generations of attorneys who ethically upheld their duties to the public. My condolences to the Shipman family. My gratitude to a hard-working and generous teacher. Rick Newkold, Honomu, Hawaii

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Richard H. Newkold - December 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

EL

“ *By the time I started teaching in 2002, Morgan Shipman was already a legend on campus, known and revered for his teaching of generations of lawyers. Morgan was a giant inside and outside the classroom. He had such a distinctive style -- his sayings, his attire, his daily walks around the building! But what I remember the most: Morgan Shipman was a true gentleman.*

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**Ed Lee** - December 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM