

2019

### Tribute to Lewis R. Katz

Barbara R. Snyder

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarlycommons.law.case.edu/caselrev>

 Part of the [Law Commons](#)

---

#### Recommended Citation

Barbara R. Snyder, *Tribute to Lewis R. Katz*, 70 Case W. Rsr. L. Rev. 21 (2019)

Available at: <https://scholarlycommons.law.case.edu/caselrev/vol70/iss1/8>

This Tribute is brought to you for free and open access by the Student Journals at Case Western Reserve University School of Law Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Case Western Reserve Law Review by an authorized administrator of Case Western Reserve University School of Law Scholarly Commons.

---

*Barbara R. Snyder, President, Case Western Reserve  
University<sup>†</sup>*

TRIBUTE TO LEWIS R. KATZ

In 1983, when I interviewed for a faculty position at Case Western Reserve University's School of Law, little did I know that one of the faculty members who interviewed me, Lewis R. Katz—the John C. Hutchins Professor of Law and the director of Foreign Graduate Studies at the Frederick K. Cox International Law Center—would become among my greatest mentors. It is interesting what one remembers about interviews and what individuals do to make job candidates feel more at ease. For Lew and me, we bonded over our shared dislike of flying. That small connection grew into a treasured friendship after I became a faculty member at the law school.

As a new law professor, I soon learned that Lew was both an acclaimed scholar of the Fourth Amendment and an exceptional teacher of criminal law and procedure. I was fortunate to have him as a role model as I developed my own teaching style. His students absolutely love him—they did then as much as they do today. His devotion to his students is unwavering. It is no surprise that Lew received the first Case Western Reserve Law School Alumni Association's Distinguished Teacher award and has won several graduating class' Teacher of the Year award.

Lew also gave me valuable advice on how to balance a career and the care of young children, and I have shared his wise counsel with many others. I had my second and third child while I was a law professor at Case Western Reserve, and I greatly appreciated Lew's support as I learned to manage the challenges that new faculty members face. Lew and his wife, Jan, also provided guidance on where to send my oldest child for kindergarten. Jan was then the co-head for administration at Ruffing Montessori, and my son thrived there. I am grateful to both of them for their care and support. I know Lew's colleagues and students could all share similar stories about his exemplary kindness.

In 2007, when I returned to Case Western Reserve as its president, I was delighted to reconnect with my former colleagues. By that point, Lew had been on the faculty for forty-one years, and he was far from slowing down. I remember sitting in a Faculty Senate meeting in the first years of my presidency and feeling proud as my mentor stood at the podium advocating for a new program.

---

<sup>†</sup> Barbara R. Snyder became president of Case Western Reserve University in 2007.

In his role as director of Foreign Graduate Studies at the Frederick K. Cox International Law Center, Lew has traveled the world, recruiting students to the law school's outstanding LL.M. programs. Once here, these students know that Lew is committed to ensuring they thrive, helping them inside and outside of the classroom as they adjust to both life in the United States and the law school's rigorous curriculum.

When I meet law school alumni from across the country and the world, they all share their own stories about Professor Katz and how much he contributed to their success as students and in their careers. Lew is an invaluable ambassador for both the law school and the university overall. In 2015, the law school celebrated Lew's fifty years as a professor and as the longest-serving, tenured faculty member. His first graduating class, the class of 1969, honored him by establishing an endowed scholarship.

Lew is also renowned for his scholarship; his books and articles have been cited in more than four hundred cases and legal articles and by the U.S. Supreme Court. Not only do we consider him an expert in criminal law, but so does *The New York Times*. Local media outlets regularly reach out to him for his comments and opinions on national and local criminal cases. His ability to communicate the complexity of law to both students and lay audiences is among his many talents.

It is a true privilege to offer this tribute to my friend, mentor, and colleague Professor Lewis Katz. During his long and illustrious career, he has advanced our understanding of criminal law and he has cultivated a devoted following of law students across the globe who are continuing his commitment to excellence and profound appreciation for the rule of law. We are all grateful for his wisdom, compassion, and enthusiasm.