

University of Colorado Boulder
Chancellor Philip P. DiStefano
Memorial Service for David Getches
Wolf Law Building Courtyard
Thurs. Aug. 11, 5 p.m.
(4 p.m. private reception for speakers)
2-3 min.

Thank you, Phil. First let me say that I am very honored to be speaking at David's memorial. I had the pleasure of hiring David as Dean of the Law School in 2003. What many of may not know is that even though David was nominated for the position by a number of individuals, he decided that he would not be a candidate. The search committee presented me with three finalists and although these individuals were good people, I did not think they were the right fit to move the Law School to the next level. So before closing the search and restarting the process and with the help of my good friend, Gene Nichol, I called David, who was at the University of Michigan, and asked him to re-consider; that the faculty, staff and students needed the type of leadership he could bring to the Law School. He said he would think about it and we decided to meet after he returned to Boulder. When we met and I asked him what it would take for him to be the next Dean of the Law School, he said, "nothing personal for me but the Law School needs a few more faculty, scholarships for students, and a commitment from the campus to complete the building." When I asked him about his compensation, he said, "whatever you think is fair." I wish that

some of the other deans would have said that when I asked them about compensation. But that was David, always looking after his colleagues and his students; not worrying about himself.

In today's world, we hear much about legacies and David left many legacies behind.

. THAT AS A devoted HUSBAND to Anne , A FATHER to his three children , AND A GRANDFATHER.

PROFESSIONALLY, ONE OF HIS LEGACIES IS THIS BEAUTIFUL BUILDING, THE WOLF LAW BUILDING. HE ALWAYS SAID THE STUDENTS WERE HIS GREATEST SOURCE OF PRIDE. THIS BUILDING IS FOR THEM AND GENERATIONS OF STUDENTS WHO WILL FOLLOW.

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MANY MAY REMEMBER WHEN THIS BUILDING WAS IN JEOPARDY WHEN THE STATE SUDDENLY WITHDREW FUNDING. **DAVID** RALLIED HIS STUDENTS AND SUPPORTERS

TO SAVE IT. HE WAS TRULY A LEADER AND A MAN OF ACTION.

FROM A SCHOLARLY PERSPECTIVE HE LEFT A LEGACY OF NATIVE AMERICAN RIGHTS, WATER LAW AND PUBLIC LANDS. HE HAD A STRONG SENSE OF FAIRNESS, AND HE BROUGHT VISION AND PASSION IN PRESSING FOR WHAT WAS JUST AND RIGHT.

WE WILL HEAR EVIDENCE OF THAT OVER THE NEXT HOUR.

MANY PASS WITHOUT LEAVING A LEGACY AT ALL. **DAVID** LEFT ALL OF US, OUR UNIVERSITY, OUR NATION, AND OUR SOCIETY WITH MULTIPLE LEGACIES.

HE WILL BE GREATLY MISSED AS A FRIEND, A COLLEAGUE AND AS A MEMBER OF THE CU COMMUNITY.

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