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George Hampel

Felicity Hampel

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A Note from Two Australian Friends

George Hampel* and Felicity Hampel**

Australian lawyers loved Irving Younger. We will always remember the impact he made here as a person and as a teacher.

We first saw him on a video screen in his “Ten Commandments of Cross-Examination.” The energy and enthusiasm were awe-inspiring. The film has since been shown to hundreds of aspiring advocates and it has never failed to enthuse, instruct, and entertain. Then there were the evidence lectures, the trial of Alger Hiss, and the papers on expert evidence, all of which became the highlights at legal conventions and workshops.

Felicity and I were fortunate to meet Irving and Judith in Australia on a number of occasions, and also at their home. We had a lot in common. We were all committed lawyers and teachers and shared Irving’s love for life, the law, and the imparting of that enjoyment and involvement to others. Irving’s knowledge and love for literature, art, and music gave him the sensitivity and breadth that made him such an extraordinary man. He was a gentle man with a great sense of humor. We worked together, ate and drank together, and exchanged views, books, and articles. His knowledge and zest for life did not diminish even when he was obviously ill.

Irving was convinced that a good advocate must be completely committed to the task. Because of this belief he greatly admired the Anglo-Australian system of the profession divided into barristers and solicitors, which enabled the barrister to practice in the courts daily without the distractions of office work and administration and with complete concentration on the art of advocacy. He also loved the atmosphere produced by the pomp and ceremony of our courts and would certainly have loved to appear in a wig and gown. He invited us to speak to his students at the University of Minnesota about all that.

* Justice of the Supreme Court of Victoria, Australia.
** Barrister.
We hope that we have conveyed in these few words what an inspiration Irving and Judith have been to us and to many others in Australia. We are proud to be amongst their friends.