

# NEW YORK UNIVERSITY LAW REVIEW

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## BERNARD SCHWARTZ

JOHN SEXTON\*

Bernie Schwartz was entering his junior year at City College in 1942 when he walked into the office of Arthur Vanderbilt, Dean of NYU Law School, introduced himself, and somehow persuaded Vanderbilt to admit him to the Law School. In those days, a college degree was not necessary to get into law school. Bernie also persuaded City College to allow him to count the first two years of law school towards his college degree if he succeeded in getting accepted at NYU Law School. Not only did Bernie get accepted, but he finished law school in two years rather than three, continually setting new records for the highest grades.

After graduation, Dean Vanderbilt wanted Bernie to go to Harvard to get his master's degree in law, but Harvard turned him away. Vanderbilt wrote a letter to Harvard stating, "You know, you folks once turned down Alexander Hamilton. Don't make a mistake at that level again," upon which they reconsidered and admitted Bernie, who placed first in his class. He went on to Oxford and again placed first in his class. Following his graduation from Oxford, Bernie returned to NYU Law School to visit his mentor. Vanderbilt promptly informed Bernie that he was just appointed to the NYU Law School Faculty and would be teaching Administrative Law that evening at six o'clock. Thus began his wonderful career at NYU. Bernie met his wife, Aileen Haas Schwartz, at NYU Law School and their son, Brian, came from that union.

Bernie was a prolific scholar; he is the author of dozens of books that have been translated into dozens of languages, works that can be seen on the bookshelves of the Supreme Courts of China, Japan, Ger-

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\* Dean, New York University School of Law.

many, and Argentina to name just a few. Last year we celebrated his 50th year of teaching at NYU Law School. The legal community has lost an outstanding teacher, a consummate scholar, and a great friend. Bernie Schwartz will be missed by all.