

## Memorial Tribute to David D. Siegel

Harold F. McNiece

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarship.law.stjohns.edu/lawreview>

---

This In Memoriam is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at St. John's Law Scholarship Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in St. John's Law Review by an authorized editor of St. John's Law Scholarship Repository. For more information, please contact [selbyc@stjohns.edu](mailto:selbyc@stjohns.edu).

## **Memorial Tribute to David D. Siegel Harold F. McNiece Professor of Law**

David D. Siegel was a prominent member of the St. John's family. After returning home from his military service during the Korean War, Professor Siegel enrolled at St. John's University School of Law, where he graduated at the top of his class of 1958. Professor Siegel was a member of the Law School's full-time faculty from 1961 to 1972, when he joined the Albany Law School faculty, but he remained as a visiting professor from 1972 to 1984. He held the position of the Harold F. McNiece Professor of Law at St. John's from 1984 to 1990. He concluded his teaching career as Distinguished Professor of Law at Albany Law School. The courses he taught included New York Practice, Federal Jurisdiction, and Conflict of Laws. He was a recipient of the Dean John J. Murphy Award, which is presented to a St. John's Law graduate in recognition of distinguished service to the public, the profession, and the rule of law; and the Dean's Award, in recognition of his outstanding achievements.

Professor Siegel was best known for his expertise in the area of New York civil procedure. He was the author of many works of legal commentary on New York procedural law, including the treatise *New York Practice*, an invaluable resource for practitioners and students alike, which provides a clear, thorough, and often humorous treatment of the subject matter. *New York Practice* has remained the definitive text on New York civil procedure from its original publication in 1978 until today, now in its fifth edition.

Immediately after the adoption of the New York Civil Practice Law and Rules (CPLR) in 1963, Professor Siegel originated the Practice Commentaries on the CPLR in *McKinney's Consolidated Laws of New York*, and he continued writing the Commentaries until his death. In addition to writing numerous articles that appeared in the *St. John's Law Review* and elsewhere, he authored *Siegel's Practice Review*, a monthly newsletter for the New York bench and bar devoted entirely to issues of New York civil practice. He also edited the *New York State Law Digest* for thirty-seven years. Professor Siegel's commentaries have been cited in a range of judicial opinions issued by the United States Supreme Court and by federal appellate courts, as well as in thousands of opinions from New York's trial and appellate courts.

In addition to his contributions to the legal community at large, Professor Siegel also made special contributions to the *St. John's Law Review* community. He served as an advisor to the *Law Review* for the Bi-Annual Survey of New York Practice, which was featured in our issues for several years during his tenure as a professor at the Law School.

Professor Siegel is survived by his wife of forty-five years, Rosemarie Duffy Siegel—a former Registrar at the Law School—and their two daughters and five grandchildren. He will be greatly missed by the bench, the bar, and the academy. We are grateful for his invaluable contributions to the practice of law in New York, to legal scholarship, to St. John's University School of Law, and to the *St. John's Law Review*.