

## A UNIQUE INDIVIDUAL

Frank W. Swacker\*

In the spring of 2003, the world lost a unique individual. That was when Dean W. Gary Vause, humanitarian, educator, international scholar, Dean, and Vice President of Stetson University College of Law died. The late Dean Vause had earned the highest degrees of his profession, including a Doctor of Juristic Science degree from the University of Virginia School of Law. Not only his beautiful wife Celia, but also his many professional colleagues in the legal community and friends will miss his brilliant and charming companionship.

It was my privilege to become one of his close friends over the past fifteen years. As a member of Stetson International Lawyers Advisory Council and as an adjunct professor at Stetson, Dean Vause often invited me to lecture to his students and foreign visiting lawyers on international investment and foreign trade. We also shared Continuing Legal Education (CLE) speaking platforms and attended many delightful social events.

I will never forget his genuine and immediate response to a personal request that he provide his insights on business and legal aspects of Latin American trade and investment at an off-campus CLE seminar. At the time of the request, Dean Vause had just returned from teaching labor law in Brazil while on sabbatical. Those who attended the seminar were delighted with his presentation. It was on that occasion that my life became enriched by our continuous friendship that ended with his untimely, early passing at age sixty.

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\* © 2003, Frank W. Swacker. All rights reserved. International Lawyer & Arbitrator Adviser to major law firms, corporations, and foreign governments on trade and investment treaties. B.A., Union College, 1947; J.D., University of Virginia School of Law, 1949; LL.M. (International Law), New York University Graduate School of Law, 1961.

Mr. Swacker is the lead author of *World Trade Without Barriers: The World Trade Organization (WTO) and Dispute Resolution*. Frank Warren Swacker, Kenneth Robert Redden, & Larry B. Wenger, *World Trade Without Barriers: The World Trade Organization (WTO) and Dispute Resolution* vols. 1 & 2 (Marion Foundation McCurdy ed., Michie Butterworth 1995).

Before his death, our mutual respect for Jeffersonian principles provided us with many hours of pleasant discussions at our frequent private luncheons. We shared the experience of resolving disputes as neutral arbitrators. We shared the belief that the business community's support and communication with the academic world is a necessary component for their respective future growth. Dean Vause achieved these aspirations to bring them closer by spearheading and bringing to reality global teaching and the establishment of a satellite campus in Tampa, Florida.