

## “YOU DONE GOOD, KID”\*

Rebecca Morgan\*\*

I entered Stetson University College of Law as all entering students did, with the “legend” of Cal Kuenzel looming large in front of me. The man was larger than the legend! During my first year of law school, I went to Professor Kuenzel's office to, as he later described it, take him to task for the law school not providing anything in the curriculum for the “as yet unnamed” area of law concerning senior citizens.

Having safely survived my year of Contracts with Professor Kuenzel, I moved on through the remaining time of my law school education, participating in the civil clinic at the local legal services office. After graduation, I was employed at the local legal services office as a staff attorney, representing elderly clients with civil legal problems. I soon had my own Stetson interns through the clinic, semester after semester.

A classmate, Meredith Craig, was also working at the legal services office, in the family law unit. We were at opposite ends of the building but managed to visit periodically. One day I sought out Meredith, and to my great surprise, there sat Cal Kuenzel in her

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office. The Civil Clinic needed a professor to supervise the clinic and Cal had stepped up and taken it on for the semester.

Although I never had a conversation with Professor Kuenzel on his view about legal aid, I never imagined him in any way interested in the clinic. Many professors of substantive law are not involved with skills courses (something still true today in many schools, for a variety of reasons) and having in my time at Stetson never known Professor Kuenzel to teach anything but substantive courses, I placed him in that category.

To say I was speechless would be an understatement. We talked for a bit about things of little relevance (he even remembered me) and of the matters of the clinic. The semester progressed and ended and another professor assumed responsibility for the clinic and Professor Kuenzel continued as Stetson's legendary Contracts professor.

I never told him of my surprise at his involvement with the clinic nor asked him his views of legal services. He evidently cared — or he would not have done it; supervising a clinic is very time consuming and demanding (I know — as I am now the one responsible for supervising that same clinic).

When I returned to Stetson as a professor, Cal was still going strong, the legend glowing brightly as ever as each academic year rolled by. Cal would periodically remind me, usually in the presence of others, how I, a cheeky first-year student, with temerity, took Stetson to task vicariously through Professor Kuenzel for not having an elder law program.

As I developed the Stetson program, Cal would encourage me as only Cal, a man of few words, could do, with a dryly delivered “You done good, kid.” It's different now without him — although I know we all die — somehow I always thought he'd be around Stetson. Now he is a true Stetson legend; a legend to be retold to each new class of Stetson students. Legal services attorneys and attorneys who take pro bono cases are integral to our system of justice. In writing this, I'm telling all of you who didn't know, and who would have never guessed, about Professor Kuenzel's involvement in, and support for, legal services. To paraphrase my legendary Contracts professor, I close with this message to Cal — Professor Kuenzel, “You done good, kid!”