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John F. Nugent '50 Remembered Us in His Will

UB Law Forum
When John F. Nugent '50 prepared his estate plan, he remembered UB Law School and the legal education he received here. Upon his death on June 26, 2000, Nugent left a generous bequest of $190,000 to his alma mater. His gift will have a significant impact on the Law School as it pursues the goals that will be funded by its capital campaign.

Nugent was a Buffalo attorney who went on to become one of the nation's leading real estate lawyers with the Equitable, in New York City. He joined the company in 1962 as an attorney, retiring in 1990 as vice president and counsel.

During his tenure there, he worked on many of the Equitable's largest and most complex real estate investments. These included the Tishman office buildings, Trump Tower, the La Mona complex in Honolulu, Peachtree Center in Atlanta and the IBM office building. He also was responsible for closing the $456 million Trammell Crow refinancing in 1989, and was cited by Donald Trump, in The Art of the Deal, for his contributions to Trump's career as a developer.

"He was quite an unusual man," said Buffalo insurance broker Dermot "Mac" McCarthy, whose sister Dorothy was married to Nugent; she died in 1995. McCarthy noted that Nugent counted among his friends the famed economist John Kenneth Galbraith, and said Nugent spoke at Galbraith's funeral. McCarthy also said that Nugent was a volunteer lecturer for the Practicing Law Institute for 18 years.

Before entering real estate practice, Nugent practiced law in Buffalo as the partner of Hon. Thomas P. Flaherty, now a State Supreme Court justice. Born in South Bend, Ind., and spending his youth in Clarence, N.Y., Nugent earned both his undergraduate degree (interrupted by service in the Army during World War II) and his law degree from the University of Buffalo.