

10-1-2005

## Scholarship Honors Carmen Tarantino, Former Buffalo Litigator

UB Law Forum

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.law.buffalo.edu/ub\\_law\\_forum](https://digitalcommons.law.buffalo.edu/ub_law_forum)

---

### Recommended Citation

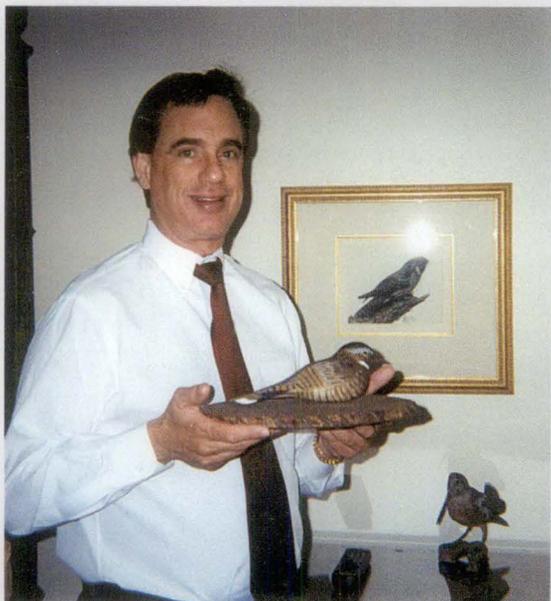
UB Law Forum (2005) "Scholarship Honors Carmen Tarantino, Former Buffalo Litigator," *UB Law Forum*: Vol. 18 : No. 1 , Article 38.

Available at: [https://digitalcommons.law.buffalo.edu/ub\\_law\\_forum/vol18/iss1/38](https://digitalcommons.law.buffalo.edu/ub_law_forum/vol18/iss1/38)

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Alumni Publications at Digital Commons @ University at Buffalo School of Law. It has been accepted for inclusion in UB Law Forum by an authorized editor of Digital Commons @ University at Buffalo School of Law. For more information, please contact [lawscholar@buffalo.edu](mailto:lawscholar@buffalo.edu).

# Leadership Giving

## Scholarship honors Carmen Tarantino, former Buffalo litigator



Carmen P. Tarantino with some of the birds he loved to watch and photograph

**D**avid E. Brown, a law partner of the late Carmen P. Tarantino, has honored Tarantino's memory with a \$313,500 memorial scholarship to the University at Buffalo Law School. The gift will support a full-tuition scholarship for three years for a deserving student in perpetuity.

Brown, a partner with Brown & Tarantino, LLP, in Rochester, and Tarantino, who received his bachelor's degree in social sciences from UB in 1973 and his juris doctor degree from the UB Law School in 1977, met at a trial in 1992. They forged a friendship and built Brown and Tarantino, LLP, into a firm with locations in Buffalo,

living memorial was the right thing to do."

"It's an honor to have a scholarship at UB named in memory of the accomplished litigator and UB grad Carmen Tarantino," said Nils Olsen, dean of the UB Law School. "This scholarship will provide needed assistance to a worthy UB student who indicates an interest in trial practice."

Bachir Karam '08 has been named the first recipient of the Carmen P. Tarantino Memorial Scholarship. He earned a bachelor's degree in history in three years from Boston College, where he was a member of the Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society and a recipient of the Congressman's Medal of Merit for Citizenship. At UB, Karam

*"The scholarship means so much to me because I believe that the cost of education is often the greatest barrier that prevents students from acquiring it."*

*—Bachir Karam, first recipient of the Carmen P. Tarantino Memorial Scholarship.*

Rochester and White Plains, expanding from five lawyers to 27 lawyers during the 12 years they were partners.

"He was like a brother to me," Brown said. "This scholarship is a meaningful way for me to remember him and help students who want to follow in Carmen's footsteps in pursuing a law career in litigation. As long as there is a UB Law School and students who want to pursue an education, there will be a scholarship with Carmen's name on it. This

plans to earn a J.D. and an M.B.A. concurrently.

"The scholarship means so much to me because I believe that the cost of education is often the greatest barrier that prevents students from acquiring it," Karam said. "Scholarships like this one help recipients achieve the educational goals they set for themselves, and for that I am endlessly appreciative."

In the courtrooms of Western New York, Tarantino was known as a fiery and combative lawyer who sometimes made his points by battling with judges, hurling briefcases or yelling at witnesses. But friends also knew him as a quiet, patient bird-watcher who spent countless hours in the woods, waiting with his camera for the arrival of some rare species.

Tarantino, who lost his battle to cancer in September 2004, was a medical malpractice defense attorney and senior partner in the law firm of Brown & Tarantino in Rochester. After graduating from law school in 1976, he worked 17 years for Damon & Morey before starting his own firm with attorney Brown in 1993. *The Buffalo News* called Tarantino one of the city's four most flamboyant lawyers. His peers nominated him to the *Business First/Buffalo Law Journal's* "Who's Who in Law" list. He was a member of the Buffalo Ornithological Society and Wanakah Country Club.

## Major gifts make a major impact

The Law School greatly appreciates the dramatic increase in the number and the size of major gifts received in recent years. Some of our alumni have given significantly increased donations in order to fund high priority special needs identified by the dean. As a result, the Law School has enjoyed outstanding accomplishments in a short period of time. This type of giving has enabled the school to increase financial aid and scholarships, expand the curriculum, renovate much of the building, improve the quality of the student body, build a courtroom, add talented faculty members, increase the bar pass rate, serve the students in many other ways, and upgrade the Law School's national reputation. There is much more to be done for the Law School to reach its potential.

Currently, additional major gifts are needed to:

- Completely renovate the lower level (currently called the basement) to build a new Academic and Activity Center. This will be the most attractive floor in the building and will be the focal point of the school. The Center will contain five state-of-the-art classrooms, in the smaller sizes needed for the new curriculum; a beautiful and highly functional student lounge; offices for 15 to 20 student organizations; and 150 oak lockers.
- Greatly expand the school's endowment through bequests and other types of planned gifts. The Law School's endowment ranks among the lowest of any public law school in the country. As a result, the school does not have the cushion it needs to fully fund its ambitious priorities.
- Create expanded programming in certain academic areas, especially litigation, corporate transactions, international finance, technology transfer and patent law, and tax.
- Provide both merit and need-based scholarships for students.
- Increase the size and breadth of the widely acclaimed clinical programs, which connect students to the real world and expose them to the type of legal problems they will face after law school. In particular, the Law School seeks funding to endow the Affordable Housing Clinic. Since the clinic's inception in the 1970s, it has been responsible for \$150 million in low income housing for the Western New York area.

If you are interested in receiving more information, please contact either Deborah Scott at (716) 645-2113 or Alan Carrel at (716) 645-6222.



## Members of The University Founders Society

The University at Buffalo created The University Founders recognition society in 1994 to honor individuals who have given a least \$50,000 to the university over a lifetime. The names of University Founders whose gifts have benefited the Law School are listed below:

Hon. Michael A. Amico  
Thomas R. Beecher Jr.  
Thomas E. Black Jr. and Bridget Black  
Hilary P. Bradford  
Thomas R. Bremer  
David Brown  
Ross M. Cellino Sr. and Jeanette E. Cellino  
Terrence M. Connors  
Kenneth B. Forrest and Ellen Katz Forrest  
Gordon R. Gross and Gretchen S. Gross  
Erma R. Hallett Jaeckle  
Roger J. Jones  
Harvey L. Kaminski  
Francis M. Letro and Cindy Abbott Letro  
Erik D. Lindauer and Lisa D. Lindauer  
Gerald S. Lippes  
James L. Magavern  
William J. Magavern II  
William E. Mathias II  
William A. Niese  
Robert I. Reis and Ellen S. Reis  
Anthony J. Renaldo  
Charles Shabsels and Susan Shabsels  
Thomas F. Wolfe and Barbara Wolfe