

## LARRY RAFUL

TRACY GRINSTEAD-EVERLY†

I first met Larry Raful, then Dean Raful, when I started law school at Creighton in 1992. He welcomed me into his law school to fill my brain with case law, legal theory, and Socratic Method. He welcomed me into his home to fill my heart with pleasure and my stomach with fabulous food on Jewish holidays — for all three years. It was hard for me to stop referring to Larry as the law school dean, even years after graduation. I was finally broken of the habit after people repeatedly asked me if this “Dean Raful” was related to Larry.

Since law school, I have had the honor of working with Larry on the Nebraska State Bar Ethics Committee and the Domestic Violence Coordinating Council of Greater Omaha. He is truly an asset to all causes with which he gets involved. Larry Raful dedicates his life to ethics and teaches it to others, both literally in the classroom and through his personal and professional words and deeds. Likewise, his dedication to ending domestic violence in our community and promoting accountability in the criminal justice system is illustrative of his fundamental commitment to fair and just treatment of all people. Larry takes action to accomplish what is necessary, regardless of its ease or popularity. He has the enviable ability to unite people by connecting ostensibly incomparable issues and conflicting opinions, and facilitating discussion until they reach the conclusion that his position is the only logical alternative. I am often jealous of his seemingly unwavering ability to be a voice of reason and perspective, especially in times when I cannot.

I have also had the honor to know Larry on a personal level, and am proud to call him a friend. The many admirable traits people see in him professionally are amplified many times over when applied to his love of family, friends and community. Wherever life takes him, I know Larry Raful will continue to live according to one of his favorite passages: “Do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with your God.” Thank you, Larry, for your dedicated lessons in school and in life, that make our world a better place.

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