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In Memory of Nicky Langesfeld

Brittany Hynes

University of Miami School of Law

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IN MEMORY OF NICKY LANGESFELD

This issue is dedicated in loving memory to a close friend, colleague, and former Editorial Board member of the University of Miami Business Law Review, Nicole “Nicky” Langesfeld, who lost her life on June 24, 2021, when the Champlain Towers South condominium in Surfside, Florida suddenly collapsed. Her loss sent a wave of devastation, not only throughout the University of Miami School of Law, but the entire South Florida community.

Nicky is remembered not just for her enduring work ethic and intelligence, but even more so for her ability to be a source of light and levity in the most difficult of times. Whether we were in the midst of an editing cycle for UMBLR or in the thick of studying for finals, Nicky always found a way to lift up those around her simply by being her unapologetic self.

I distinctly remember being tucked away studying in a library cubicle at wits’ end trying to wrap my head around some nuance of bankruptcy law. Finals had just started, so naturally, exhaustion—and borderline delusion—had set in for everyone. My phone buzzed. Nicky had just sent an unsolicited picture of a wild chicken that her father sent to her. It was a common occurrence. I was still processing what I was looking at when, out of nowhere, the completely silent library filled with the sound of Nicky giggling in the cubicle right next to me. I suddenly found myself hysterically laughing during what was moments before one of the most stressful times of my academic career.

Many law students—and, as former law students, attorneys—can understand the importance of these light moments during what can be a challenging pursuit of success. Whether poring over footnotes or pouring cafecitos in the library, we remember how Nicky filled these walls with laughter—and how her hard work and dedication helped fill the pages of this publication. We dedicate this issue to Nicky in memoriam.

- Brittany Hynes, J.D. ’19, UMBLR Volumes 26 and 27