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In Memory of Joni Cesta, Neil D. Levin, Thomas Crane Wales, Glenn J. Winuk

David Yellen

University of Miami School of Law, dny10@miami.edu

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HOFSTRA LAW REVIEW

Volume 30, No. 1

Fall 2001

DEDICATION

IN MEMORY OF

JONI CESTA
NEIL D. LEVIN
THOMAS CRANE WALES
GLENN J. WINUK

*David N. Yellen**

Volume 30 of the *Hofstra Law Review* is dedicated to members of the Hofstra community, including four graduates of the Law School, who were violently taken from us during the past year. Of the four Law School graduates, Joni Cesta '91, Neil D. Levin '81, and Glenn J. Winuk '87 were lost in the September 11th terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center. Thomas Crane Wales '79 was murdered in Seattle, Washington on October 11, 2001. The *Hofstra Law Review* presents the following biographical sketches to honor the memory of these four distinguished alumni.

* Dean and Max Schmertz Distinguished Professor of Law, Hofstra University School of Law. The Author wishes to thank Timothy Fazio for his research assistance in preparing this Dedication.



JONI CESTA

Joni Cesta was a graduate of Cornell University and Hofstra Law School. Since 1992, she worked as an in-house attorney at the Alan L. Sarroff Company, a securities firm in lower Manhattan. Alan Sarroff, the company's chief executive officer, said:

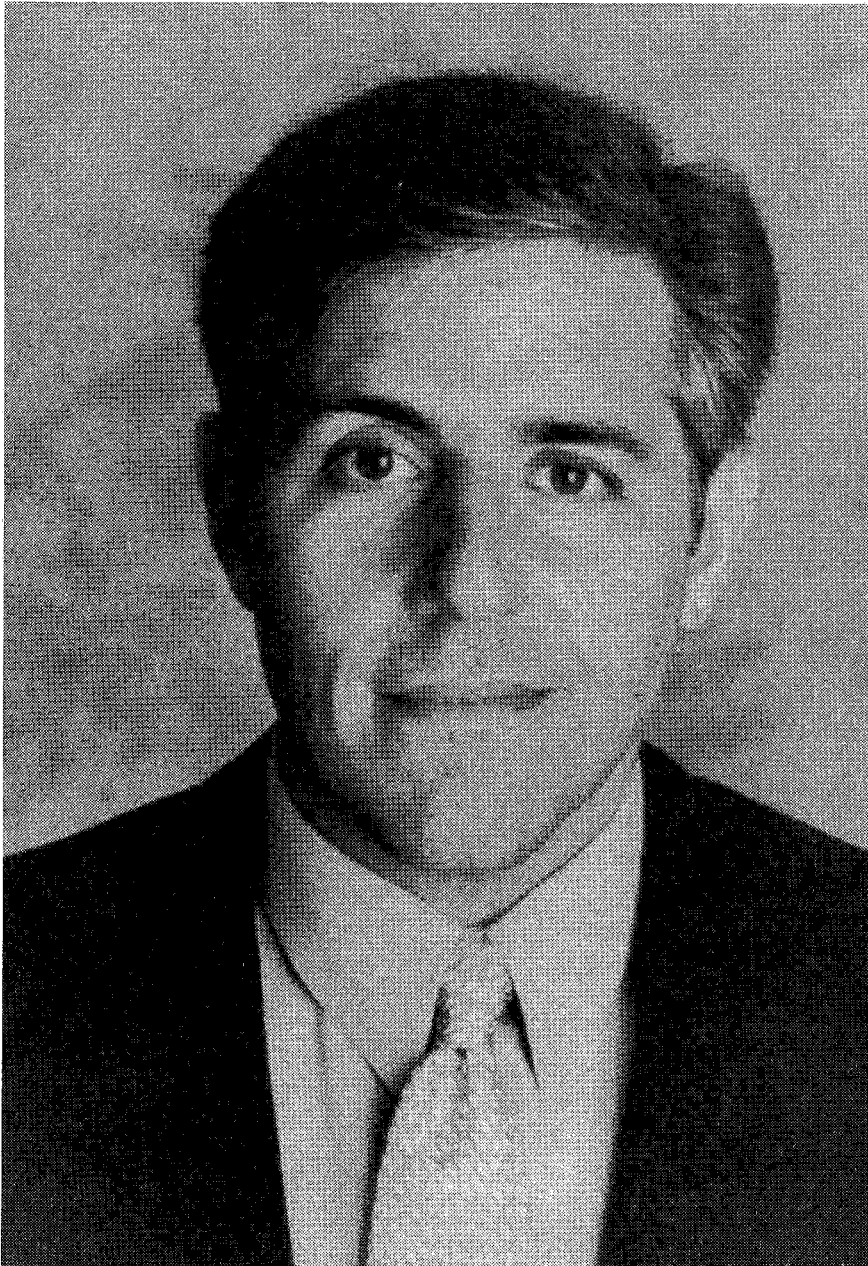
Joni Cesta was the consigliere to A.L. Saroff because of her clear thinking and ability to reduce complicated issues to their simplest form. Joni will be missed as no other person could possibly fill her high heels due to her intelligence, sensitivity, grasp of difficult issues, and the spell that she put us under to make us all better people.

A close friend described her simply as "a sweetheart with a lot of love in her heart." Her husband, Adam Kriftcher, remembers her as having "a heart of gold. She could actually walk into a room of people and light it up. She had this knack of making everyone feel special. Her beautiful smile and eyes made everyone feel at ease. . . . She made everyone feel special and important."

Joni Cesta loved nature and the outdoors. Long Island's Planting Fields Arboretum was one of her favorite places. A member of the Smithsonian Institution and the Audubon Society, she was an animal lover who had adopted birds, dogs, and snakes as pets.

She was also an avid traveler. With family and friends, she visited places ranging from Montauk to Key West to the Caribbean and Europe.

Joni Cesta, a Bellmore resident, is survived by her husband, Adam Kriftcher, and her father, John Cesta, of Florida.



NEIL D. LEVIN

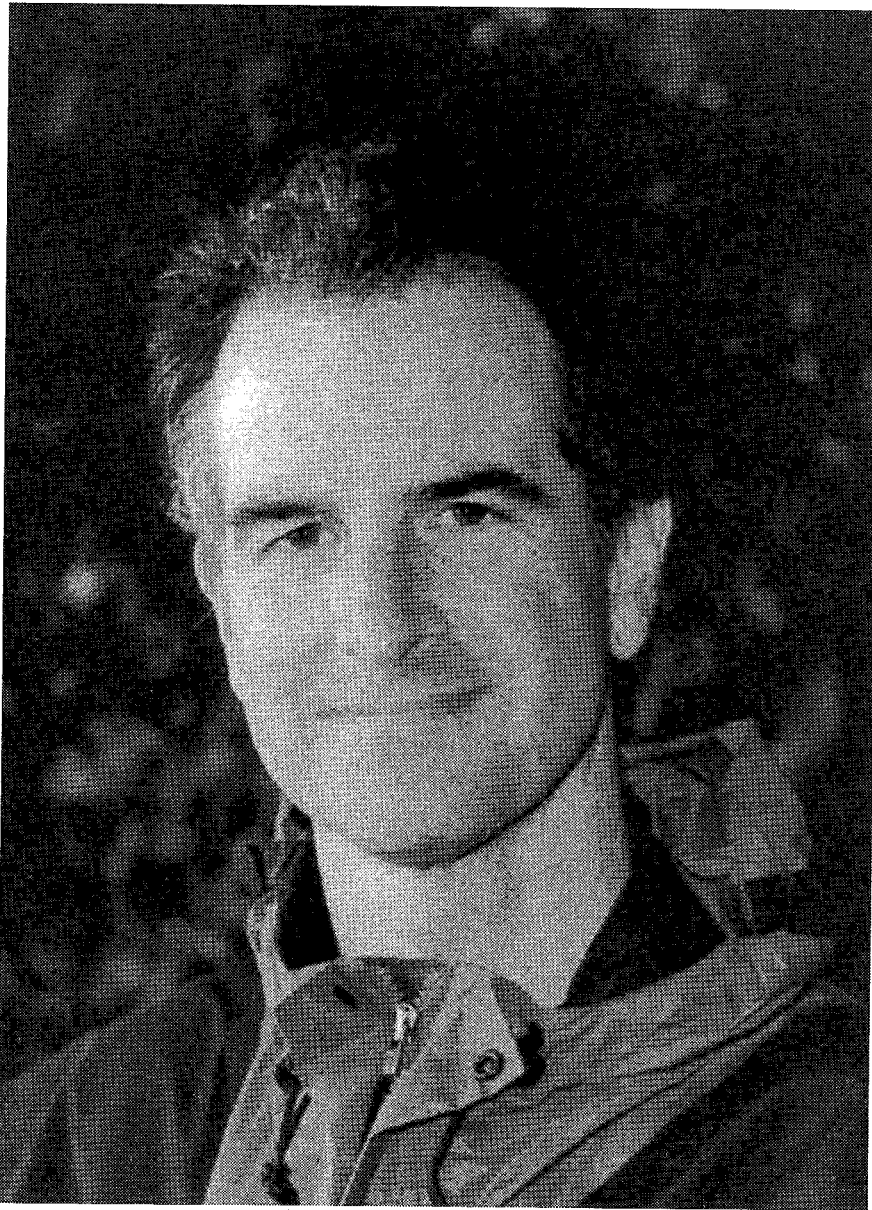
Neil D. Levin became Executive Director of The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey on April 5, 2001, having previously served as the Superintendent of Insurance for New York State. Prior to assuming that post, Neil served as Superintendent of Banks for New York State from January 1995 to April 1997, and was a former Vice President of Goldman, Sachs & Co.

Neil received a bachelor's degree in economics from Lafayette College, a master of business administration from Long Island University in 1978, and a law degree from the Hofstra University School of Law in 1981. Neil also served as a trustee of Hofstra University and as a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

An education fund for Port Authority families, as well as a State University of New York campus specializing in international affairs and commerce, have been named to further honor his memory.¹

Neil is survived by his wife, Christy Ferer, stepdaughters, Ali and Caitlin Millard, his mother Gloria, brother Stan, sister-in-law Robin, niece Kimmee, and nephew Adam.

1. More information on these undertakings can be found on a website maintained by Neil's wife, Christy. The website, found at <http://www.neillevin.com>, also contains eulogies, news articles, and a wealth of other information about the events of September 11, 2001.



THOMAS CRANE WALES

Thomas Crane Wales was born in Boston in 1952. He graduated from Milton Academy and Harvard College. Tom earned his law degree from Hofstra University School of Law in 1979 and served as Editor-in-Chief of Volume 7 of the *Hofstra Law Review*. He began his legal career by clerking for U.S. District Court Judge Frederick B. Lacey of New Jersey, later moving to Manhattan to work as a litigator at Sullivan & Cromwell.

In 1983, Tom moved with his family to Seattle, Washington and became a federal prosecutor. As an Assistant United States Attorney, he was a leading trial lawyer for major white collar and business fraud cases, as well as a leader in professional circles where he served as head of various bar association committees. Among his many civic and professional activities, Tom also served as president of Washington CeaseFire, a handgun control group.

Tom was shot and killed while working at his computer in his suburban Seattle home on October 11, 2001. His death is still under investigation.

The Thomas C. Wales Memorial Foundation has been established to promote the ideals and activities that Tom represented and pursued during his lifetime, such as community involvement, public service, and fairer justice.²

Tom is survived by his son, Thomas Crane Wales VII, his daughter, Amy McCutcheon Mueller Wales, his brother, Richard Douglas Wales, his sister, Katherine Wales, his parents, Thomas Crane Wales and Sonia (Douglas) Wales, his former wife, Elizabeth Mueller Wales, and many nieces and nephews.

2. The Thomas C. Wales Memorial Foundation maintains a website at <http://www.walesfoundation.org>. In addition, Washington CeaseFire has established the Tom Wales Endowment Fund to serve as a lasting memorial to his role as an outspoken gun safety advocate. Their website can be found at <http://www.tomwalesendowment.org>.



GLENN J. WINUK

Glenn J. Winuk rushed from the Broadway law offices of Holland & Knight, LLP straight for the tragedy that was unfolding at the World Trade Center. Relying on knowledge and experience gained from twenty years of volunteer service with the Jericho Fire Department, he took a mask and a pair of gloves from passing firefighters and charged toward the disaster, just as he had done in the 1993 World Trade Center bombing. He performed countless other acts of heroism in Jericho, where he served at times as an officer and commissioner.

Glenn received his undergraduate degree from the State University of New York at Oneonta and received his law degree from the Hofstra University School of Law. He worked at Holland & Knight, LLP for thirteen years and was a partner with a focus in construction litigation.

Glenn is survived by his parents, Elaine and Seymour, his brothers, Jay and Jeff, and many other loving family members.

We also mourn the loss of the other members of the Hofstra community who were lost on September 11, 2001: Kenneth M. Caldwell '93; Jason Cefalu '94; Jeffrey M. Dingle '99; Andrew Fisher '83; Richard P. Fitzsimons '78; Joseph G. Hunter '94; Alisha C. Levin '90; Noell C. Maerz '97; Edward J. Mardovich '83; Alok K. Mehta, Hofstra Student, 2000-2001; Bernard Patterson '78; Edward Perrotta '81; Andrew J. Stern '82; Frederick T. Varacchi '88; Joshua Vitale '99; Courtney W. Walcott '90; Glenn E. Wilkinson '78; and Julie Lynne Zipper '84, '87. Hofstra University has established scholarship funds to honor the memories of each Hofstra student and alumnus killed on September 11th.

We hope such tragedies are never repeated. We honor those lost by continuing with our work.
