

# 2015 Awards Recognition Reception

March 27, 2015 • Bradbury Thompson Alumni Center • Washburn University Campus



[1] Members of Kay Arvin's family [2] Gene Olander, '63, spoke on behalf of Judge Hotchkiss [3] David Rebein and his family members [4] Professor Jim Concannon spoke on behalf of Winton Hinkle

## Lifetime Achievement Awards

The Lifetime Achievement Award is bestowed on graduates whose careers have been highly distinguished, and whose achievements and contributions are widely recognized as significant and outstanding in their field of endeavor, whether it be in the practice of law, the judiciary, business, public service, education, or otherwise.

While all graduates of the Law School will be eligible for consideration, in general those nominated should be persons whose professional careers have been substantially completed, and who clearly will represent the very best and most accomplished of the Law School's many outstanding graduates.



*Kay Arvin* grew up in the 1920s on a Kansas working farm. At three years old, she followed her sister to a one-room schoolhouse near Cullison, Kan. Thus began a life of engaged learning that never faltered.

Shortly after the war, Kay was blinded by an accident. She inquired if she could accompany her husband, Les, to his classes at Washburn Law. She enrolled and thrived, serving as secretary for the Washburn Bar Association.

Les and Kay became Wichita attorneys and raised their two sons near Rose Hill, Kan. In spite of the challenges of blindness, Kay embraced the dual roles of mother and working professional. Her practice specialized in adoption and divorce,

and later, in mediation. Kay was an in-demand speaker on marriage and Christian faith, and considered her legal career an extension of her commitment to helping others.

She championed the cause of abused women, interviewed several incarcerated for killing abusive husbands, and advocated on their behalf with then-Governor Joan Finney. She was the first woman to try a case in her state's Supreme Court and win.

Kay considered civic and pro bono work an obligation. She was listed in Harvard's *Best Lawyers in America*.

Kay died June 1, 2014, in Nashville six days before her 92nd birthday.

BA, Ottawa University, '43 • JD, Washburn University School of Law, '51



*Winton Hinkle* was born in Hays, Kan., on March 2, 1942, and grew up in Garden City, Kan. He received his BSE, *cum laude*, in English from Emporia State University in 1964. He earned his JD degree, *magna cum laude*, from Washburn Law in 1968.

Winton was a member of Phi Alpha Delta and editor-in-chief of the *Washburn Law Journal*.

In December 2014, Winton retired from Hinkle Law Firm LLC, a company he founded in 1987. He was senior counsel, concentrating his practice in municipal finance and securities law. The Hinkle Law Firm currently has 40 attorneys and more than 70 support staff, including paralegals and accountants, and represents private and publicly held businesses.

BSE, Emporia State University, '64 • JD, Washburn University School of Law, '68

Winton's many contributions to Washburn Law include: Alumni Association Board of Governors member from 2002 to 2013 and president from 2010 to 2013; and member of the Business and Transactional Law Center's Board of Advisors from 2004 to the present.

Winton and his wife, Pauletta, established an endowed unrestricted program fund in the Business and Transactional Law Center during the Centennial Celebration. The Hinkle Elkouri Law Firm, L.L.C., established a \$50,000 scholarship at Washburn Law during the Centennial. The firm also makes cash awards to Washburn students in the National Negotiation Competition.

Winton and Pauletta have four adult children.



*The Honorable Alex Hotchkiss*

was born in Burlingame, Kan., on Aug. 12, 1904. He was born to naturalized, immigrant parents from Scotland.

After graduating from Washburn Law in 1927, Judge Hotchkiss moved to Lyndon, Kan., in Osage County to practice law and run for county attorney. He returned to Topeka to accept a legal position with the former Oil Department of Kansas. Judge Hotchkiss moved back to Lyndon to practice general law. He ran for county attorney and in 1943 was elected to the Kansas Senate. In 1960, Hotchkiss became judge of the Fourth Judicial District.

Judge Hotchkiss was a leader in progressive legal reform. As a member of the Kansas Judicial

Washburn University, '24 • JD, Washburn University School of Law, '27

Council, he made significant contributions to the judicial system in his committee work. He was one of the early moving forces behind the publication of the "Pattern Instructions for Kansas," available to judges and lawyers in both civil and criminal cases, which provides clarity and instructions for jurors in the courtroom.

Judge Hotchkiss served as Washburn Law Alumni Association president from 1954 to 1955. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Award from Washburn Law in 1967. Judge Hotchkiss served as justice of the national fraternity of Phi Alpha Delta (PAD) in 1967, and later was appointed Supreme Justice of Phi Alpha Delta Legal Fraternity, International.

Judge Hotchkiss was recognized as having an outstanding legal mind and was considered one of the best district judges in Kansas.

## *Distinguished Service Award*

The Distinguished Service Award is bestowed on graduates of Washburn Law who have particularly distinguished themselves and brought recognition to the school through their service to Washburn University School of Law, the legal profession, their community, or public service.



### *The Honorable Nancy L. Moritz*

is a former judge of the Kansas Court of Appeals and justice of the Kansas Supreme Court. She was nominated by

the Obama administration for a position on the Tenth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. A feature story about Nancy starts on page 12.

BBA, Washburn University, '82 • JD, Washburn University School of Law, '85

## *Honorary Life Membership*

The Honorary Life Membership is awarded annually to a non-graduate. The recipient of this honor is someone who has provided an exemplary service to their profession, community, and Washburn University School of Law.



### *David J. Rebein*

is founder and partner of Rebein Bangarter Rebein. He received his B.A., *summa cum laude*, in political science from Washburn University in 1977.

While at Washburn, David was inducted into the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society. David earned his JD from the University of Kansas School of Law in 1980.

David is a member of the American College of Trial Lawyers. He is a past president of the Kansas Bar Association and past president of the Legacy for Justice Foundation. David is current treasurer of the Kansas Association for Justice. He is admitted to the Kansas Bar and Florida Bar.

David received the 2009 Distinguished Service Award from the Kansas Bar Association for continuous longstanding service on behalf of the legal profession. He has been recognized by *Best Lawyers in America* and *Super Lawyers* for his work as a trial lawyer.

With more than 30 years experience, David has tried hundreds of cases and represented Fortune 500 Companies as well as individuals in commercial and personal injury cases. He is at home in both Federal and State Courts.

David sums up his work by saying, "I walk into a tragedy and try to make sense of what happened. I personally investigate the case and if I take it, I give it everything I've got."

BA, Washburn University, '77 • JD, University of Kansas School of Law, '80

## *Awards Committee*

Lucky DeFries, '78, Chairman; Tom Adrian, '69; John Duma, '81; John Hamilton, '65;

Ed Kainen, '88; Lynn McCreary, '94; Kathryn Wachsman, '75

*Staff Liaison:* Professor Jim Concannon

[washburnlaw.edu/alumni/awards](http://washburnlaw.edu/alumni/awards)