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Tribute to Professor Roy Anderson

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TRIBUTE TO PROFESSOR ROY ANDERSON

*Timothy Davis**

IT is an honor to write a tribute to Roy Anderson and to share my thoughts on his importance to me, SMU Dedman School of Law, and legal academia. My professional and personal relationship with Roy began in 1989 when I arrived at SMU to begin an academic career. Roy visited my office, greeted me warmly, and suggested books I might adopt for my Contracts and Sales classes—courses he also taught. At the time, I did not fully appreciate that his visit was the beginning of a relationship that would serve me well over the years and develop into one of mutual respect and appreciation.

As my mentor, Roy was the guiding hand: readily available to provide assistance, but never in an overly intrusive manner. I recall numerous visits to his office seeking insight on how best to teach certain concepts or clarification on others that were unclear to me. Indeed, my teaching pedagogy was modeled after Roy's approach. His goal was to create a collaborative classroom in which he and his students explored legal concepts with an aim toward enhancing students' understanding of substantive concepts and developing their lawyering skills. To achieve these goals, he effectively and rigorously used a modified Socratic method that challenged students without needlessly embarrassing them. In true Roy Anderson fashion, he accomplished these teaching objectives brilliantly and strategically employed classroom humor. Indeed, the many mentoring relationships that I have developed at both SMU and Wake Forest with students and junior colleagues have been based on the model that Roy established with me.

Roy's mentorship extended beyond teaching. As a member of my tenure committee, Roy offered helpful suggestions on my scholarship. It was also from the model Roy set that I learned respect for being an effective university citizen. I recall his commitment to service to the university community and the balanced and wise approach he brought when engaging with colleagues. Roy was as willing to listen as he was to provide advice. Roy's reputation as a trusted and respected leader at SMU Law has been well earned.

During his career, Roy has produced scholarship that blends the theoretical and the practical. His scholarship speaks to each constituent in his audience, which consists of academics, judges, and practitioners. Roy's

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scholarship relating to Uniform Commercial Code (UCC) Article 2 remedies is an exquisite melding of the theoretical and practical. He clearly articulates the premises on which Article 2 remedies are predicated. Roy also cogently discusses the interpretative issues emerging from UCC remedy provisions. His scholarship reflects who he is. It is clear, direct, and laced with appropriate humor. His multivolume treatise on UCC Article 2 remedies¹ embodies the best exposition on this topic and has earned him a national reputation as the preeminent authority on Article 2 remedies.

On a personal level, my wife and I appreciate the way that Roy and his family extended themselves to us during our time in Dallas. Although much time has passed, we still speak of the dinners at the Andersons' home, which were accompanied by good food and the wonderfully witty and instructive stories that Roy would tell.

I am grateful to call Roy my friend, mentor, and colleague. I have no doubt that the SMU and Dallas legal communities will miss Roy on his retirement.

1. ROY RYDEN ANDERSON, *DAMAGES UNDER THE UNIFORM COMMERCIAL CODE* (2020–2021 ed. 2020).