1996

In Memorium of Kyle R. Kravitz 1969-1996

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IN MEMORIAM OF
KYLE R. KRAVITZ*
1969-1996

The Villanova Sports & Entertainment Law Journal is too new, and Kyle R. Kravitz was too young, for us to be writing this farewell to our friend, one of the Journal’s founders and the first Managing Editor of Outside Articles of the Journal. But we write it anyway, because sometimes age does not matter, and Kyle’s role in the creation and development of the Journal was too important for us not to remember his efforts in its pages.

Kyle R. Kravitz was only twenty-six when, on March 8, 1996, he passed away from complications arising from bone cancer discovered one short year before. During the time Kyle was fighting cancer, he taught us all a lesson about how life should be lived. He lived his life to the fullest, doing what he wanted and what he enjoyed doing as long as he could while thinking primarily of others. He continued to go to the office and practice law as long as he could, and he continued his life-long pursuit of a better golf game well into his treatment for cancer.

Kyle Kravitz was in his second year at Villanova Law School and already a Staff Member of the Villanova Law Review when we approached him and asked him to review an article for the proposal issue of the Journal. We expected a few short comments, but what we received from Kyle was nearly a rewrite, complete with corrections to the text and to the citations.1 Right then we knew we

* Kyle Kravitz was the Managing Editor of Outside Articles for Volume I of the Villanova Sports & Entertainment Law Forum. This tribute was written by the Editor-in-Chief and Executive Editor of Volume I.

1. Kyle was very fond of footnotes, so much so that his own Villanova Law Review article, Denying the Devil His Due, 38 VILL. L. REV. 1661 (1993), is overflowing with them. Our tribute to Kyle would be incomplete if we did not include footnotes in this tribute to him. About the only thing Kyle may have been more fond of than footnotes was the title of his article, Denying the Devil His Due.

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needed to have him on the Journal's staff, because our skills with the Bluebook were not as complete as his.

With very little prodding, we convinced Kyle to join us as we published the first volume of the Journal. Kyle worked out a deal with the Review to enable him to join the Journal, and once he started, there was no way to stop him. To our knowledge, Kyle is the only person Villanova Law School has allowed to serve as an editor for two academic publications. Kyle's diligence that first summer in sending out letters to track down articles, generating word of mouth about our new publication and working with authors to meet our deadlines demonstrated the commitment that Kyle possessed for any project, especially a project he cared about. Kyle worked closely with the Journal's outside authors that first year, doing his best to keep those authors on track for the Journal's first publication. Kyle could find an article or an idea for an article anywhere.

Kyle's efforts with the Journal in its first year and his efforts at Villanova Law School continue to impact the Journal today. Kyle reached out to his colleagues, other students at Villanova and prodded them to do better. He took a number of students, including some in his own class, under his proverbial wing to make them better attorneys and better students. He affected members of the staffs of Volumes II and III of the Journal, and even without looking closely, you can see his touches and impact in their work.

Once Kyle graduated from Villanova and moved on to Center City Philadelphia and the law firm of Duane, Morris & Heckscher, he proved himself one of the talented and lucky attorneys entering practice today, landing a position in litigation and getting to combine his passions of entertainment and the law. In the short time he was with Duane, Morris & Heckscher, Kyle proved himself a superior attorney. Even while practicing law, he always had an entertainer's disposition about him, and he demonstrated that in his days on a Philadelphia FM station and while running Haverford-Bryn Mawr Broadcasting. Everyone knew that eventually Kyle would find a way to combine his talent as an attorney with his inter-

3. Kyle enjoyed "wheeling and dealing." In fact, he leased a car just like his father's, from the same dealer at the same time because he got his father such a great lease deal on the car. Kyle could transform nearly anything into a negotiation. He would often negotiate just for the sake of negotiating.
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est in the entertainment field. No one was therefore surprised when Kyle was genuinely excited when he received the opportunity to represent one of Duane, Morris & Heckscher’s more interesting clients. Kyle began to represent the heavy metal group Metallica, and his enthusiasm when telling us about his new client was evident, and we knew he would be an outstanding attorney for them.

While all his accomplishments and all his talents demonstrate what a superior attorney Kyle was, they do not begin to show what a good person and a good friend he was. Kyle was always available for consultation on any number of topics, academic and frivolous, and he challenged those around him to be sure of themselves when contradicting him, for he was very confident of his abilities. Except in one area. Kyle was not the most confident individual on the golf course. One of Kyle’s greatest abilities off the course, his ability to think through a problem and come to a solution, paralyzed him on the golf course. Kyle still had his moments on the course, including the round of a lifetime during his summer clerkship with Duane, Morris & Heckscher, a round that Kyle believed may have earned him an offer from the firm.

Kyle engineered a tribute to the late Bob Woolf, a man who had a profound impact on the sports industry, for Volume I of the Journal.5 Sadly, three volumes later we are authoring this tribute to Kyle Kravitz, a man who had a profound impact on the Journal.

Kyle Kravitz has been our friend, our mentor, our foil and the final member of our golfing foursome.6 Now Kyle will be our inspiration. We miss him dearly and wish everyone had the chance to know him as we did.

David A. Storm
Rhett Traband**


6. Thomas E. Love, Ph.D., Assistant Professor at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, was the other member of the golfing foursome. Dr. Love is husband of Sheryl H. Love, Esq., an associate with the law firm of Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue in Cleveland, and a member of the Villanova Law Class of 1994.

** David Storm and Rhett Traband were founders of the Journal and served as the first Executive Editor and Editor-in-Chief, respectively. Mr. Storm presently serves as the NCAA Compliance Coordinator for American University in Washington, D.C. Mr. Traband is an associate with the law firm of Hornsby, Sacher, Zelman, Stanton, Paul & Beiley, P.A. in Miami, Florida.