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# Newsroom: Remembering Professor Rice

Roger Williams University School of Law

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# Newsroom

## Remembering Professor Rice

It is with great sadness that RWU Law notes the passing, on June 15, 2013, of a longtime friend and faculty member, Professor David A. Rice.



It is with great sadness that the Roger Williams University School of Law community notes the passing, on June 15, 2013, of a longtime friend and member of its faculty, **Professor David A. Rice**.

Professor Rice's death was unexpected, according to the *Boston Globe*, but occurred following "a protracted but spirited bout with cancer during which he lived fully with grace, style and optimistic determination."

Professor Rice was a "true gentleman with a warm heart," said RWU Law's Faculty Secretary Supervisor Shirley Staskiewicz, who worked with him for many years. "He loved his family and his friends but also held a place in his heart for his students and his colleagues. David would call me when he was at his weakest point and, instead of complaining, he would ask me about my own health issues. It would make his day just to get a card in the mail or a quick phone call. He said it was like medicine."

A graduate of Columbia University School of Law, Professor Rice was a part of RWU Law from its formative days, joining the faculty in 1997. He had previously served as a tenured law professor at Boston University and Rutgers, and as visiting faculty at Yale, Maine and elsewhere. The *Globe* noted that "his scholarly prowess was usually muted by his self-effacing style and humor."

"David was a valued member of our family for most of our history, teaching an array of commercial law topics and displaying a late-career interest in how the Internet impacted

commerce,” said RWU Law Dean David A. Logan. “He was also the energetic director of our summer program in Portugal.”

For years, Professor Rice led RWU Law’s Lisbon Summer Program at the Catholic University of Portugal, as well as spearheading the school’s Portuguese-American Comparative Law Center. In his retirement, he resided in Chestnut Hill, Mass. He was the loving and beloved husband of Virginia Griffin Rice. He is survived by many members of his extended family.

According to Professor Rice’s wishes, any memorial gifts should be made and mailed to: Cancer Center Research in memory of David A. Rice, c/o MGH Development Office, 165 Cambridge Street, Suite 600, Boston, Mass. 02114.