



SWALL

Southwestern Association of Law Libraries

Remembering Our Colleagues



**Prepared by the Life Memberships/Memorials Committee
(Richard E. Ducey & Kathryn Fitzhugh)
for distribution at the SWALL Business Meeting on 4-13-08**

(Photo from SWALL's 2007 meeting in Tempe, AZ)

CHERYL ROTTGERING BUTLER
(November 24, 1944 – December 11, 2007)

Cheryl passed away in December 2007 in Dallas Texas, surrounded by her loving friends and family. Cheryl had lived with ALS for the last 10 years of her life and never questioned or complained. Cheryl graduated from Western Kentucky University and later received her Masters Degree in Library Science from the University of Kentucky. She had the honor of working for several prominent law firms in Dallas throughout her professional life. Her last law firm position was as Library Director at Locke Liddell & Sapp in Dallas from which she retired in June 2002.



[Cheryl Butler (left) with her dear friend, Joni Cassidy]

Cheryl's dear friend and fellow SWALL member, Joni Cassidy, wrote this about Cheryl: "Cheryl was the most amazing person I ever met. She had an unfaltering commitment to life itself and to the friends that surrounded her. By the time we met at a seminar in Washington, DC, she was already suffering the symptoms of Lou Gehrig's disease. But, she talked about it only in terms of lifestyle adjustments necessary to keep up with her work and social engagements. Her home and van were customized with mechanical help-aids to keep Cheryl active until her last days. Most wondrous of all, Cheryl never lost touch with her friends and she never stopped caring about the ups and downs of their lives. With all that was happening in hers, she always reached out to be part of ours."

An upcoming issue of the *DALL Advance Sheet* will include memories of Cheryl. Here is an excerpt from two of those memories:

"Cheryl had the uncanny ability to sense what each individual's strengths were and allowed each of us to excel by contributing our talents. She was above all a true librarian and mentor/teacher but she was also one of the kindest, nurturing, and sweetest persons I have ever known." [Excerpt from a tribute by Pamela A. Navarro, Manager, Update Library Services, L.L.P. to her friend and former boss, Cheryl Butler]

"[A]s a new law librarian still learning the job – literally—I received a call from one of the attorneys asking if we had a "Green Book." Without missing a beat I replied: 'Yes, I'll bring it to you shortly.' I had no clue what a "Green Book" was! But I knew who did and who could help me: Cheryl! I called her and she quickly explained that the attorney was after the *Texas Rules of Form* which I had near at hand. So – as promised – I was able to take the attorney the "Green Book" he needed! Whew!

"Over the years I treasured the opportunities I had to visit with Cheryl. Even as her illness began to manifest itself and take its terrible toll, she never betrayed any doubt in the strength of her faith to provide her with the courage to face her future. Her life was a genuine profile in courage. We all will miss her presence among us. But I'm sure we are all better people for having known her and observed her courage. Thank you, Cheryl. Rest in peace." [Excerpt from a tribute to Cheryl by John Luther Adams, Research Services Librarian at Jones Day]

SHELLY KAY CLEMENT

(August 19, 1961 – November 8, 2006)

Excerpt from Marilyn Nicely's memorial to Shelly that appeared in the Law Library Journal:

Shelly was one of the most dedicated librarians I have ever known. After earning a bachelor's degree in anthropology, Shelly pursued her M.L.S. at the University of Oklahoma. She joined the University of Oklahoma Law Library staff as Circulation Librarian in 1988. Before becoming a law librarian, Shelly had worked in the University Libraries system from 1981-1988. In 1993, Shelly transferred from Circulation to Technical Services to become the Acquisitions and Government Documents Librarian.

Interruptions were always greeted with a welcoming nod to the interrupter. Needless to say Acquisitions interfaces with everyone—Director, Technical Services Librarian, Catalog Librarian, Public Services Librarians, and of course the faculty and students. Shelly was always ready to help and to go the extra mile to be helpful. She was a very persistent searcher and ferreted out the information on where to find things and who to order from. She did not ever really give up looking even when searches seemed hopeless.

Government Documents librarianship was a special passion for Shelly. She was sincerely committed to the mission of the Federal Depository Program to provide free government information to the public. The Government Documents Roundtable of the Oklahoma Law Library Association memorialized her in a proclamation stating “Shelly Clement was a believer in and advocate for federal depository librarianship in meeting the information needs of the people of this state [Oklahoma] and nation.”

Shelly was a member of AALL, the Southwestern Association of Law Libraries and the Mid-America Association of Law Libraries. She took professional educational opportunities very seriously. She also was interested in management literature and putting management principles into action.

Shelly's illness was of long duration. Shelly suffered invasive treatments as though they were minor inconveniences. She endured pain without complaint. The law library staff often forgot during the two years of her treatments that she was sick because she never complained or showed anger or frustration. She shared a lot of information to help the staff operate during her absences. Finally the gravity of her illness took hold and Shelly could no longer come to work. But she never gave up the fight against her cancer. Her spirit never flagged.

Shelly's contributions to the University of Oklahoma Law Library are significant and she will be missed. She has left us a good road map which really helps us in continuing the progress of growing the collection and providing good service to our patrons.



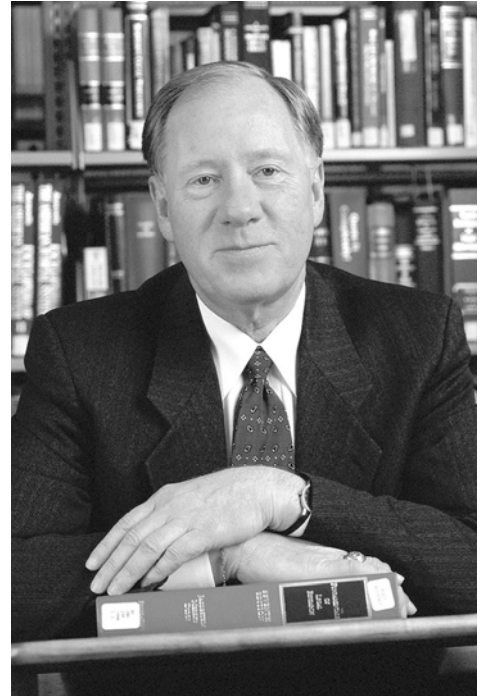
DONALD JACK DUNN

(November 9, 1945 – January 5, 2008)

Excerpt from a tribute to Don Dunn by Terry Martin, Henry N. Ess III Librarian & Professor of Law, Harvard Law School:

When I took my first real library position at the Tarlton Law Library in 1972, four years after becoming a lawyer and with my library degree fresh in hand, Roy Mersky assigned Don Dunn to break me in. This was a great choice on Roy's part and the beginning of my education in law librarianship as well as the beginning of a long friendship. Don had been at Tarlton only three years and was yet to receive his library degree (and his law degree was a decade ahead of him) but he seemed to know everything about law libraries. Don was Roy's utility infielder and was involved in a number of activities not on the organization chart.

One of RMM's rules was that all new professionals had to work in every department and the newest professional had to sub for Bernice – the second most amazing looseleaf filer I ever saw – when she went on vacation. All too soon that was me. Don gave me a rubber thimble and taught me how to open Bender volumes when the ring broke off in your hand, how to use the BNA comb, how not to rip old pages out until you were sure the new pages were in the right order. Every day a new stack of filings appeared in my box and every day I got further behind. I developed a lifelong distaste for the NY Administrative Code and soon felt like the Sorcerer's Apprentice. After a few days, Don took pity on me and helped me catch up. Watching him file was amazing! Fingers flying, he had me almost caught up by the time Bernice returned and only spent 90 minutes a day at it! The most amazing looseleaf filer I ever saw.



Don received his library degree from UT and left to start the library at Western New England College of Law, a new school starting in Springfield, MA. He and Cheryl bought a house across the street from my aunt in Longmeadow, so I had many ways to keep tabs on him. After getting the WNEC library up and running and receiving tenure, Don decided to get a law degree. He has to have been the only law-tenured law student in the US! I always meant to ask him if he got a waiver from taking legal research and writing. I mean if you were one of his staff assigned to teach that course while he was a student, could you flunk your boss and the co-author of *Fundamentals of Legal Research*? I doubt it.

Don served as Interim Dean and as Dean at WNEC and then was hired to be Dean at La Verne. Some of us have served as acting deans at our schools; one at least has even served as dean. I know of no other librarian who has served two schools as dean.

Don was a charming man from East Texas who was at home anywhere. His talents were recognized for what they were and he got the degrees later, just to tidy things up. He mentored so many in our profession. Table tennis partner, story teller, teacher, scholar, super-organized administrator, sage, humorist, librarian, friend. I'll treasure the memories of him but wish I could hear his voice again.

JAMES ROYCE JACKSON
(October 6, 1942 – November 28, 2007)

JAMES ROYCE JACKSON (October 6, 1942 – November 28, 2007)

Jim's wife, Barbara Taylor, emailed friends and colleagues on November 29, 2007, to tell us Jim passed away peacefully from Lou Gehrig's disease the night before. Barbara's email included a copy of Jim's obituary from which the following excerpt is taken:

Jim grew up in Paul's Valley, Oklahoma. He earned a B.A. in philosophy from Southern Methodist University in 1965. He served in the Peace Corps at the health training center in the village of Ramanagaram in Mysore State (now Karnataka), India from 1965-67. Upon his return, he was drafted into the U.S. Army and served in Vietnam. He wrote an engaging memoir about these two disparate experiences, "Two Corps: Peace and War." With other returned Peace Corps volunteers, he worked in the Model Cities Program in Texarkana, Arkansas, in the early 1970s, where he met and married the mother of his children, Virginia (Ginny) M. Neely, who died in 1997.

He moved to Fayetteville in 1973 to attend law school at the University of Arkansas, and earned his J.D. in 1976. He was particularly interested in environmental law and in mediation as an alternative to litigation. He practiced law for 15 years in Fayetteville and Springdale, and then enrolled in the library and information studies program at the University of Oklahoma, earning his M.L.I.S. in 1992. Jim worked in the Rogers Public Library before joining the faculty of the Young Law Library of the University of Arkansas School of Law in 1996 as a law reference librarian.



[Jim Jackson at the 2005 SWALL Meeting in Little Rock]

A kind, thoughtful, loving and compassionate man with a quiet and reserved manner, Jim had deep and wide-ranging intellectual interests; he was a gifted poet, a creative artist, a skilled and hilariously funny story-teller, a talented musician, and an inspired teacher. But the role he loved most and what he may have been best at was being a father. His children meant everything to him, and he was a completely caring, engaged, involved and loving parent.

Jim was a Senior Dharma teacher in the Kwan Um School of Zen, and he and his wife Barbara founded the Morning Star Zen Center in Fayetteville in 1986.