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Yale Law School

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Arthur L. Corbin

Friedrich Kessler*

The first installment of the following article on products liability was dedicated to Mr. Corbin to honor him on the occasion of his ninetieth birthday; the second installment has to be dedicated to his memory. An incredibly rich life has peacefully come to an end, on Thursday, May 4, a little more than half a year after his ninety-second birthday. Last summer he was still able to spend several months at his summer home in Maine, working daily for several hours in his garden. He returned refreshed to New Haven and surprised his visitors by the keenness of his mind and of his memory. He loved to reminisce about the early days of the Law School—its golden period, as he called it—under Dean Swan, his close personal friend. But, unlike most old men, he did not dwell only on the remote past. He remained deeply interested in the present state of the Law School, the School he loved dearly and to which he had given himself with unsurpassed loyalty and devotion.

A truly great man has passed away, a man whom nature had richly endowed not only with the highest qualities of intellect and creative imagination but also with uncompromising honesty, generosity of spirit and genuine human warmth. It was my good fortune, if I am permitted to end on a personal note, to have enjoyed the warmth of his friendship. My life has been immeasurably enriched by close and constant contact with him over the last twenty years.

* Sterling Professor of Law, Yale University.