

IN MEMORY OF
GARY L. BIRNBAUM
(1952-2016)



We are deeply saddened to report that our dear friend and valued colleague Gary Birnbaum passed away on November 1, 2016. Gary will be missed greatly by our firm, his friends, family and the greater legal community.

Gary's work with law firms and lawyers spanned more than 40 years. He was one of a small group of pioneers who built Mariscal, Weeks, Friedlander & McIntyre into one of the largest law firms in Arizona, and he helped to manage the combination of Mariscal Weeks with Dickinson Wright. He was made a shareholder with Mariscal Weeks in 1981, joined the Executive Committee in 1987 and was Managing Director from 1992 until Mariscal Weeks joined Dickinson Wright PLLC in 2013.

Gary was the Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Program Development at the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University from 2006 to 2012.

Over the years, he has served as Special Counsel to the Office of the Governor of Arizona in the newly-established Spur Cross Ranch Conservation Area and counseled numerous local municipalities including the Towns of Queen Creek, Cave Creek, and Paradise Valley as well as the Cities of Phoenix, Scottsdale, Mesa, and many others. He served as a trusted mediator to clients of all sizes in over 500 cases throughout his career.

A very private and generous man, Gary gave back to the communities in which he lived and worked. His involvement in the philanthropic area was never done for self-recognition or gain – he did it because he truly believed in helping others and he set an example for all professionals to follow. His civic activities include membership on the Board of Directors of the Phoenix Theatre, one of the oldest continuously operating theatres in the United States (1980-1986; 2006-2012), and service for two terms as President of the Theatre. He was a member of the City of Phoenix Citizens Bond Committee (by appointment of Mayor Goddard) and the City of Phoenix Committee on Preservation of the Arizona Biltmore Golf Course (by appointment of Mayor Rimsza). He was a member of the Dean's Council of 100 (Executive Committee) at the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University. He was also a member of the National Board of Visitors of the University of Arizona College of Law (2000-present) and on the Board of Directors of the Maricopa Health Foundation in 2000.

Gary also continued to serve as a mentor and invaluable resource to all of our attorneys. He will be missed, but his spirit and energy will live on in everything we do.



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