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## John W. Reed

Austin G. Anderson

*The Institute of Continuing Legal Education*

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## John W. Reed

*Austin G. Anderson\**

Since 1959, the Institute of Continuing Legal Education has provided legal education to practicing lawyers and judges in Michigan and across the continent. During its twenty-eight years, the Institute has had three directors. The first was E. Donald Shapiro, who served from 1961 to 1967. He was succeeded by John W. Reed in 1968. John served as Director until 1973 when he resigned to return to the Michigan Law School faculty full time.

John's contributions to the Institute began before his years as director. As a Michigan faculty member during the Institute's early years he was committed to offering practitioners opportunities to review the law with someone other than opposing counsel or the bench. His travels would take him to such diverse locations as Escanaba or Washington, D.C. As director, he established the Institute's publication program by employing Grace Holmes as legal editor. The Institute continued to prosper under John's leadership. Under the supervision of Grace and her successors, the Institute's publication program has become the major publisher of Michigan practice handbooks.

John's leadership in continuing legal education and his contribution to the continuing education of lawyers and judges have been recognized on a number of occasions. I will tell you about two of them.

In August 1983 at its annual meeting, the Association of Continuing Legal Education Administrators presented John with its prestigious Harrison Tweed Award for Excellence in Continuing Legal Education. The award reads as follows:

Association of Continuing Legal Education Administrators  
ACLEA

Whereas, this Association did in 1970 establish the Harrison Tweed Award for Excellence in Continuing Legal Education in recognition of Harrison Tweed's quarter of a century of service to the course of continuing legal education and the high standards he set for professional legal education, and

Whereas, the Award is to be conferred in recognition of exceptional excellence in the conception and fulfillment of a course or a publication,

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\* Director, The Institute of Continuing Legal Education, Ann Arbor, 1973 to present. — Ed.

of a program, or of a significant contribution to the further development of continuing legal education. Now, therefore Be It Resolved that ACLEA confer the

Tenth Harrison Tweed Award

on

John W. Reed

whose achievements as teacher, author, and professional administrator are a benchmark for all to follow. His imagination and creativity have had a tremendous impact upon the development of continuing legal education for practicing lawyers and members of the bench. His leadership as Director of Michigan's continuing legal education program has been a model for other administrators and has inspired many to strive for the same goals and ideals. He has selflessly shared his knowledge of the law with students, practitioners, and judges throughout the United States, exemplifying the role of the law school professor in continuing legal education.

And on May 9, 1987, during the thirty-eighth presentation of the Institute's International Advocacy Institute, Associate Dean Edward H. Cooper presented a commemorative plaque to John on behalf of the Executive Committee of the Institute of Continuing Legal Education.

The following statement, which appears on the plaque, is perhaps the best description of his many contributions to the Institute of Continuing Legal Education and this flagship continuing legal education event.

You have been a steadfast, inspiring and tireless servant of the Institute for Continuing Legal Education. You have served as Director, advisor, and on the board of the Institute of Continuing Legal Education. You have served as a participant in the Advocacy Institute as drafter, moderator, and teacher. Your keen understanding of the need, not just for outstanding teaching, but for outstanding preparation and appropriate stage managing, has added to the success of many Advocacy Institutes since your first one in 1956. You have dealt skillfully not only with the conflicting egos of the faculty, but also with the witnesses, actors and others necessary to put on an outstanding program. You have had the capacity to react with aplomb when things went awry. By all of your acts you have enriched the experience, not only of the registrants of the Institute's, but also of the faculty and the other participants. For all of that we thank you.

In addition to the recognition received from professional groups, John is remembered by everyone who came in contact with him. Fourteen years after becoming the Institute's Director I still receive mail addressed to Professor John W. Reed, Director, the Institute of Continuing Legal Education.

Following John as Director of the Institute was easy. He was always prepared to give counsel and advise while never intruding on

what he believed were my responsibilities as Director. In his kindly, thoughtful way he set a standard of performance to be admired but never equalled. What is most important, he became a good friend. That is probably the best compliment he could bestow on me as his successor.

I will no longer see him as often as before. He has moved to Wayne State University's Law School and I have moved, along with the Institute, to a new building.

Despite John's new responsibilities, I am certain his interest in the Institute will endure and we will continue to benefit from his dedication to continuing legal education.