

ERNEST KINGSTON BRAYBROOKE 1915-1989

Emeritus Professor Ernest Kingston Braybrooke, Moot Master for the Law School, died at his home on 16th May after an illness lasting several months.

Kingston Braybrooke was born in New Zealand in 1915, where he obtained his first legal qualification. In 1949 he studied at Columbia University, and returned to New Zealand for a time before going to the University of Western Australia first as a Reader and then as Professor of Jurisprudence. He was appointed Foundation Professor of Legal Studies at La Trobe University in 1972, and held that position until his retirement in 1981. During that time he spent various periods as Chairman of the Department of Legal Studies and Dean of the School of Social Sciences and, for a short period, as Acting Vice-Chancellor.

In 1982, following his retirement from La Trobe, Kingston Braybrooke came to Monash to assist with the moot programme. He was appointed as Moot Master in late 1982 and held that office until a matter of weeks prior to his death.

During his period at Monash Kingston Braybrooke made a lasting impression on students and colleagues. As Moot Master he captured, and insisted upon, the formal atmosphere of the court room, but did so with due regard to the sensitivities of those appearing before him. He was meticulous and precise in his use of the English language, and expected students to display similar respect for its intricacies.

In his dealings with students, Kingston was formal but never aloof, and with everyone he was polite, unfailingly courteous, gentle and considerate. He was truly a friend to all persons in the Law School. All of us feel enriched for having known him, and saddened by his passing.

Kingston Braybrooke is survived by his wife, three children and nine grandchildren.

Prof. C R Williams, Dean
Monash University Law School