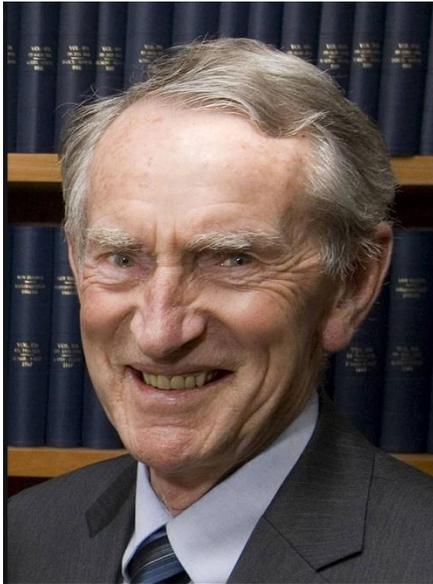


Sir Ivor Lloyd Morgan Richardson (1930-2014)



Sir Ivor Richardson was an eminent New Zealand and Commonwealth jurist, a leading legal scholar and a member of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

After some time in private practice, he became a Crown Counsel in the Crown Law Office, then Professor of Law and Dean of the Law faculty at Victoria University of Wellington, practiced law again for a time, then became a Judge of the High Court of NZ followed by his appointment to the Court of Appeal where he became President. He was also on the Hong Kong Court of Final Appeal

and a Privy Councilor. Amongst other things, he had a major influence on the development of NZ tax law and policy. Sir Ivor was Chairman of the Council for Legal Education and Chancellor at Victoria University. He chaired or served on a number of important Committees and Commissions.

Sir Ivor lived an extraordinary life and probably without even realizing it was a great example to me of what life is really all about. He contributed so generously and so substantially to so many individual people, to justice and the law, to the academic world, to the development of social and economic policy, and to his country at the very highest level.

Yet he maintained the common touch. Ever modest, courteous and reasonable, he was a pleasure to deal with for all manner of people across the full spectrum of society. He had a gift of real and deep insight and a manner of communicating that insight with remarkable clarity but without ever giving offence.

In the commercial world, where I had the good fortune to be associated with several New Zealand's largest companies, Ivor was enormously respected. He was unequalled in this regard. The recognition of that high level of integrity was always emphasized for me by its enduring and widespread nature even in the face of judicial decisions which were not always what one might have hoped for.

In the policy world, I was privileged to be asked by Ivor on occasions to talk issues through with him and his colleagues. So I witnessed him at work at close quarters with respect to the Royal Commission on Social Policy, the Review of the Department of Inland Revenue, and his initial approach to improving greatly the workflow and work processes of the Court of Appeal when he became President. He was unmatched in his ability to cross the divide between administration and management, the law, economic and social policy, and governance. His talents were diverse and substantial and he happily and generously shared them with others.

Jane and Ivor were a great pair and wonderful company together. Dinner parties with them were enjoyable, fun and stimulating. His passing was a great loss for Gillian and me and a loss for his many friends. Ivor was a fine friend and a wonderful husband and family man. His departure was also a huge loss for New Zealand.

But Jane and the family can look back on Ivor's massive contributions to New Zealand with great pride and satisfaction. We know Jane helped him greatly in providing a base from which he could achieve so much. All of this may not ease the pain of his departure but I hope over time will help you cope with the loss of a fine friend and wonderful husband.

Ivor epitomized so many of the values New Zealanders hold dear. He had great intelligence, much empathy for others, the highest standards, unwavering integrity, a wonderful work ethic, and a love of family.

He was truly a great New Zealander. We are all so much better for his life but we will all miss him greatly.

Roderick Deane