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# Brown On Maudsley

GERALD BROWN\*

Ronald Harling Maudsley first came into my life when he walked across the old quad of Brasenose College at Oxford as I was entering the gates of the college in October of 1947. Our eyes met and I instantly thought we might have been classmates before the war. I was thirty-two, returning to Oxford, with my wife Olive for two more years of study. Ron was twenty-nine. He had been six years in the war, had taken a First in the B.C.L. (Bachelor of Civil Law) at Oxford the previous spring and was now embarking on his teaching career as a Fellow of Brasenose. We became fast friends.

Ron was a great athlete. He represented Oxford against Cambridge in three sports; cricket, golf and rugby fives. I was the first American to represent the University in rugby fives. That game, and the trips we made to play it, brought us together often. En-route back to Oxford after matches we often stopped at pubs for ale, darts, and dinner. Occasions like that make friendships flourish easily. Olive and I watched Ron become the amateur captain of the Warwickshire Cricket Club, and attended his wedding to Eryl Smith.

In the years following, we kept in touch—the Maudsleys coming to the United States in 1952, and I visiting and staying with them in Oxford in 1953. I arranged with Dean Joseph Sinclitico of the University of San Diego School of Law for Ron to teach summer school in 1966. The clincher, cementing the association, was the Dean's learning Ron had a S.J.D. degree from Harvard Law School; the Dean had one also.

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\* Presiding Justice, California Court of Appeal, Fourth District, Division One.

Ron returned to the University of San Diego for the 1970 fall semester. He said immediately we must climb to the bottom of the Grand Canyon. We went at Thanksgiving time, started down the Kaibab Trail at 6:00 A.M., and walked along the river. We reached the top of the Bright Angel Trail at 2:00 P.M. after eight hours of steady, methodical walking so as not to tire, interrupted by twenty minutes for lunch at the Indian Gardens. Fresh from this outing we inquired at the Canyon Headquarters what time we should allow for the hike we had just completed and were told two days. A guide book said "only sturdy, experienced hikers in the soundest physical condition should attempt the trail on foot."

Ron was outgoing, interested in all students and persons, a great teacher, a perfect friend.