

IN MEMORIAM: CARL D. HOBELMAN

Carl Hobelman, a friend and colleague to many in the Energy Bar, died on August 31, 2010. As a hard-working and highly intelligent practitioner, Carl spent his entire career with LeBoeuf, Lamb, Greene & MacRae (now Dewey & LeBoeuf), beginning with the New York Office and eventually serving as Managing Partner of the firm's Washington, D.C. and Los Angeles offices in the 1980s and '90s. With a practice focused on the regulatory issues facing electric utilities, he was at the forefront of the development and application of environmental law, particularly the National Environmental Policy Act, as well as the challenges posed by the rapid increases in energy prices in the 1970s.

A native of northern New Jersey, Carl began his career at LeBoeuf Lamb in New York in 1959 upon graduation from Harvard Law School and after service in the U.S. Army. Becoming a partner in 1965, he played a major role in high profile cases of the 1960s and '70s, including the Chicago River diversion case and the Scenic Hudson cases before the U.S. Supreme Court and other courts. He was instrumental in electric utility response to the New York City Blackout of 1964 and in the development of the New York Power Pool and the Northeast Power Coordinating Council, predecessors to today's New York Independent System Operator and the National Electric Reliability Corporation's northeastern regional entity, serving as an officer of the latter organization. Relocating to Washington, D.C., Carl became Managing Partner of that office in 1979 and later became Managing Partner of the Los Angeles from 1992-94. He served on the Executive Committee of the Federal Energy Bar Association (now the Energy Bar Association) from 1974-82 and as its President during 1980-81. He was well-published (including an article in the Energy Law Journal) and highly regarded by his many friends and peers alike.

While always a tough-minded lawyer, Carl will be remembered as a warm, gracious person with a lively sense of humor. He served as a mentor to generations of energy lawyers, some of whom continue in practice at Dewey & LeBoeuf today. He is survived by his wonderful wife, Grace, to whom he was married for 46 years. He will be missed.