

C A R L S . H A W K I N S

April 3, 1926– April 25, 2010



Carl S. Hawkins grew up in Provo,
Utah, attending Maeser Elementary School,
Farrer Junior High, and Provo High
School. He served as a radio operator in the
Army Air Corps in World War II,
stationed in the Pacific theater of operations.
He married Nelma Jean Jones
after the war. » » »

PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN SNYDER



BYU Law School faculty meeting, St. Francis School, December 1974. Clockwise, from left: Rex E. Lee, Carl Hawkins, Monroe McKay, Dale Kimball, Jim Backman, Ed Kimball, H. Reese Hansen, Bruce Hafen, Jerry Williams, Clif Fleming.



Hawkins attended Brigham Young University as a political science major, earning a BA degree in 1948. He earned an LLB degree with honors at Northwestern University Law School in 1951, where he was elected to the Order of the Coif and served as editor in chief of the *Illinois Law Review*, now the *Northwestern University Law Review*. He also received the Wigmore Award for reflecting outstanding credit on his law school and did postgraduate work in 1951 as the Harry A. Bigelow Teaching Fellow at

the University of Chicago Law School, working in their legal drafting program.

In 1951–1952 Hawkins was an associate in the firm of Wilkinson, Boyden & Cragun, in Washington, D.C., and in 1952–1953 was law clerk to Chief Justice Fred M. Vinson of the U.S. Supreme Court. From 1953 to 1957 he was a partner in Wilkinson, Cragun, Barker & Hawkins in Washington. He was instrumental in the firm's successful representation of several Indian tribes in claims against the U.S. government. In

1957 Hawkins accepted a position as a professor at the University of Michigan Law School, where he was a popular and dedicated teacher and scholar. He also contributed to the creation of many bills before the Michigan legislature and served as executive secretary of the Michigan Law Revision Commission, chair of the Civil Procedure Committee of the Michigan State Bar Association, and reporter of the Michigan Supreme Court Committee on Standard Jury Instructions. He was coau-



Dinner at the Riverside Country Club, September 1975. Left to right: Marion G. Romney, Ida Romney, Spencer W. Kimball, Camilla Kimball, Chief Justice Warren Burger, Nelma Hawkins, Carl Hawkins, acting dean of the Law School.



*Meeting
of the board
of visitors,
March 1976.
Lynn Richards
speaking.*



thor of a six-volume work on rules of procedure for Michigan courts and also coauthor of two torts casebooks.

In 1973 Hawkins accepted a position as one of the founding professors of J. Reuben Clark Law School at Brigham Young University, where he taught until his retirement in 1991. The importance of Hawkins' faculty appointment to the Law School was predicted by Dean Willard Pedrick of the Arizona State University College of Law, who told then BYU Law School Dean Rex

E. Lee during the initial faculty search that Hawkins' presence on the faculty would give the new law school "instant credibility." When Hawkins called then BYU President Dallin H. Oaks in 1972 to accept his appointment at the Law School, as then Professor Bruce C. Hafen recalled, President Oaks told his colleagues, "I guess the Lord really wants this law school . . . to be a good one. Carl's coming." In addition to his teaching and research responsibilities, Hawkins served as acting dean and dean of BYU Law School

from 1975 to 1977 and from 1981 to 1985. During his tenure at BYU he also had visiting faculty appointments at the law schools of the University of Georgia, Pepperdine University, Washburn University, and the University of New Mexico. He took a two-year leave of absence to serve as executive director of Florida's Academic Task Force for Review of Insurance and Tort Systems, which produced legislation for comprehensive medical malpractice and liability insurance reform in that state.



Faculty, administration, and previous three deans of BYU Law School at the appointment of H. Reese Hansen as the new dean, March 1990. Front row, left to right: Deans Rex E. Lee, Bruce C. Hafen, Carl S. Hawkins, and H. Reese Hansen.



Throughout his career Hawkins served as an advisor and mentor to many colleagues and students, spending many hours in public service. He was a commissioner and vice chair of Utah's Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission and chair of the Attorney General's Utah Administrative Law Advisory Committee, which drafted the comprehensive Administrative Procedure Act in 1987. At the national level he was a charter member of the National Conference of Bar Examiners' Multi-State Essay Examination Drafting Committee. He also served on

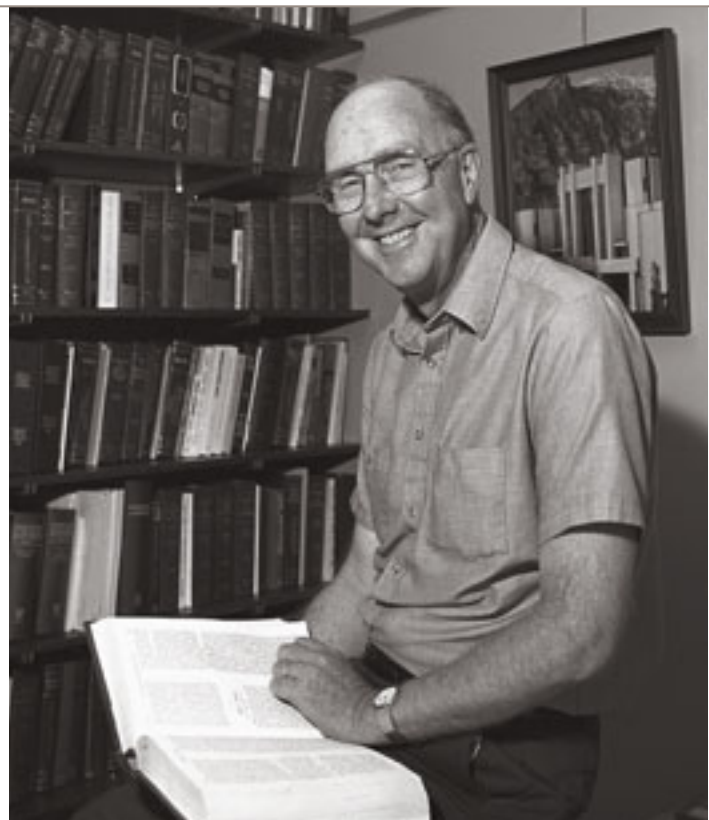
the Association of American Law Schools' Accreditation Committee. Hawkins was appointed by President Jimmy Carter to the Judge Nominating Commission of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 10th Circuit. While at Michigan and BYU, he published widely in professional journals. He also contributed to the *Encyclopedia of Mormonism* and in 1999 wrote the Law School history book *The Founding of the J. Reuben Clark Law School*.

Hawkins held many positions in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day

Saints, including bishop of the Ann Arbor (Michigan) Ward, counselor to President George Romney of the Detroit Michigan Stake, and president of the Detroit and Dearborn, Michigan, stakes. He served in leadership positions in BYU student stakes and was a member of the Church's evaluation correlation committee for more than eight years. In recent years Hawkins served as a stake coordinator for the name extraction program and submitted thousands of names through the volunteer FamilySearch indexing program.



Carl Hawkins speaking at the announcement of the Guy Anderson Endowed Chair at J. Reuben Clark Law School, April 19, 1978.



Dean Carl Hawkins in his office, August 6, 1991. Photo by Mark Philbrick.