



In Memoriam: ACLM Past President Monroe E. Trout, MD, JD, FCLM

We reflect with deep respect and admiration on the life of Monroe E. Trout, MD, JD, FCLM, who passed away peacefully on May 4, 2024, at the age of 92 in Appleton, Wisconsin.

Dr. Trout's enduring legacy is etched into the archives of legal medicine through his remarkable contributions and visionary leadership. Serving as the President of the American College of Legal Medicine from 1972 to 1974, he was a driving force behind pivotal developments that shaped our College. During his presidency, Dr. Trout championed the establishment of the *Journal of Legal Medicine*, which first appeared in March 1973. His tenure was marked by a focus on strengthening the financial stability of the College and advancing its scholarly impact.

In addition to his contributions within the ACLM, Dr. Trout was appointed to the Malpractice Commission by Elliott Richardson, then Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare. He also played a crucial role in the public discourse on malpractice by chairing and moderating a high-profile debate between the presidents of the American Medical Association and the American Bar Association in Memphis, Tennessee.

One of Dr. Trout's notable ambitions was to create a Legal Medicine Primer for medical students and young doctors. Although initially constrained by financial limitations, his vision came to fruition in the mid-1980s with the founding of the ACLM Foundation. Under his leadership as the inaugural Chair of the Board, the Foundation secured charitable gifts and funded the primer, which was distributed free of charge to medical schools, thanks in part to support from the pharmaceutical industry.

Dr. Trout's commitment to legal medicine also extended to legal education. In 1962, he pioneered the first course in Legal Medicine at Dickinson School of Law (now Penn State Dickinson Law), setting a precedent for legal medicine education in the United States.

In recognition of his monumental contributions, Dr. Trout was honored with the ACLM Gold Medal in 1998, a testament to his profound impact on the field. His dedication to advancing legal medicine and his unwavering commitment to legal medicine education and professional development leave an indelible mark on our College.

ACLM Past President Dr. Sandy Sanbar fondly recalled, "Monroe was a wonderful friend. He and his wife hosted ACLM members at their home for dinner, and we had a great time together. He was extremely well-respected."

Dr. Peter Rheinstein, Chair of the ABLM, shared, "In 1993, while working at the FDA, I was asked to help organize Bloomfield College's annual science program. Although it is New Jersey's only four-year Predominantly Black Institution, Bloomfield is not a Historically

Black College and University (HBCU) and lacks access to many of the resources that traditionally support HBCUs. When I realized I was in over my head, I thought of Monroe Trout because I knew he had been instrumental in establishing the Morehouse School of Medicine and had endowed scholarships at Morehouse. Despite not knowing Bloomfield, Monroe generously contributed his time and resources. Bloomfield's President honored Monroe (and me) with a dinner. Additionally, Bloomfield honored Monroe by creating the Monroe and Sandra Trout Scholarship and awarding him an honorary PhD."

Dr. Trout's contributions to legal medicine and education have left an enduring legacy, and he will be deeply missed.

To learn more about Dr. Trout's remarkable achievements, please visit this [website](#) for a closer look at his extraordinary life and career.

With deepest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Vinluan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael Vinluan, MD, JD, FCLM
President