LAWYERS WEEKLY

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LEADERS IN THE LAW

Michael W. Maddin

Founder, Maddin, Hauser, Roth & Heller PC Southfield Wayne State University Law School

Maddin has spent his halfcentury legal career in real estate, corporate, business, estate planning and probate law. He served as president of the United Jewish Foundation and Jewish Historical Society of Michigan, as well as chairman of several Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit and Allied Jewish Campaign committees. Maddin is a Life Fellow of the American Bar Foundation and an American Judicature Society member.

What does practicing law mean to you personally and professionally?

I was drawn to the law initially as my father was an attorney, but not really interested until much later. Finishing undergraduate in an LSA program, I was not sure what I wanted to do. My parents convinced me to try law school, which I was glad I did. Clerking during Jaw school helped me to obtain a sense of really what the law was about, helping people solve their problems and reach their goals.

Practicing law and my passion and compassion gave me the ability to use my sales experience to help promote what I felt was in the best interest of a client in whatever I was handling. The practice of law has been most rewarding in addition to providing a living for myself and my family, building a firm but also developing a reputation amongst clients, some who span my entire practice and have treated me as a trusted advisor. Professionally, it helped me with honing abilities to assist me in many other activities outside of the law, in the community with the Bar Association, and with family and friends.

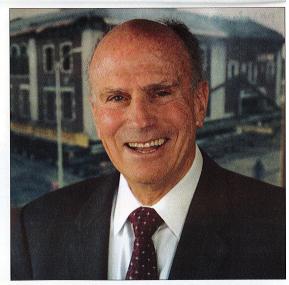
While saddened by the changing tone of the profession, I feel there will always be a place for competent and caring attorneys, and feel those with similar thoughts as younger people will find a remunerative and satisfying career ahead.

What was your first job? What did you learn from the experience?

As a paperboy for The Detroit News, delivering papers 365 days a year in all kinds of weather to an amazing array of customers, building the "route" from 55 to 77 customers, keeping track of each address and papers requested by each, dealing with an occasional customer complaint, collections. This all gave me a great business background and how to experience/deal with people.

What do you consider your biggest professional accomplishment and why?

On a professional side, building and helping to manage our firm's operations and growth while maintaining family and community involvement.



On the law side, the "saving" and moving of the Gem/Century theaters and assisting the client in over 1½ years of neoptiations and litigation.

What is the best advice you've ever received many pe that you've actually used? I'm int "If you want it, work for it!" vulgarity.

What is your favorite quote? Two I enjoy most: 1) "If you don't know where you're going, any road will get you there"; and 2) "You don't need to see the top of the stairs to take the first step."

What are two things about you that not many people know? I'm intermittently socially shy and offended by

How would you describe yourself in one word?

Passionate.