E(rnest) Lawrence Barcella, Jr., J.D. came to College from Birmingham Seaholm of Bethesda, Maryland, majored in History, was a member of Zeta Psi, IDC, and Newman Club, and went on to earn the J.D. from Vanderbilt in 1970. Described as "the most adventuresome lawyer ever known" for his investigative skills and mastery of trial tactics and courtroom procedures. As an Assistant United States Attorney for Washington DC from 1971-1986, he led inquiries and prosecutions involving the assassination of Orlanado Letelier in 1976, illegal sales of explosives by former CIA agent Edwin Wilson, the 1983 bombings of the American Embassies in Beirut and Kuwait and the Marine garrison in Beirut, and the 1985 hijacking of the Italian cruise ship Achille Lauro. His prosecutorial career was grounded in the firm belief that the American system of justice was strong enough to bring even the worst criminal offenders to justice without resorting to measures used by authoritarian governments. He was awarded the Harold J. Sullivan Award by the Assistant United States Attorney Association in 1979 and the John Marshall Award for Outstanding Achievement in Litigation from the U.S. Department of Justice in 1983. Larry left federal service in 1986. In private practice, he handled internal investigations for corporations and defended people charged with securities fraud, antitrust violations, tax evasion and money laundering. He was a partner in the law firm of Paul, Hastings, Janofsky and Walker and a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers. Larry died of bladder cancer on November 4, 2010. Hundreds of friends, former colleagues and admirers attended a memorial ceremony held on November 30th in Washington’s federal district trial court, where the outgoing, storytelling litigator made a name as a terrorism prosecutor in the 1970s and 1980s and then later as a white-collar defense lawyer. Judge Paul Friedman of the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia presided, at Barcella's request, over his memorial ceremony, which was held in the ceremonial courtroom of the E. Barrett Prettyman U.S. Courthouse in downtown. Washington’s legal elite crowded the room. Speakers included one of Barcella’s longtime friends, Martin Gale, who said he feared there are no cute, clean stories from their days at Dartmouth. Gale noted Barcella’s attention to detail—using his ability to memorize a Budweiser bottle label to highlight the point. Paul Hastings chairman Seth Zachary praised Barcella’s sense of humor. And his legal mind. “His legal excellence was widely respected, relied upon and treasured,” said Zachary, a partner in the firm’s tax practice in New York. Zachary said Paul Hastings is planning to partner with the American Bar Association to establish a fund in Barcella’s name to foster collegiality among prosecutors and defense lawyers. Barcella believed vitriol between prosecutors and defense lawyers was unnecessary and counterproductive, Zachary said. DLA Piper partner Earl Silbert, a former U.S. attorney for the District of Columbia, spoke of the “twinkle” in Barcella’s eyes, how he lived life not as an observer but as a participant. Silbert was one of a group of lawyers who regularly attended a winter ski trip with Barcella. Silbert described Barcella as a “one-man anti-terrorist force.” A nice tribute from friends. Larry was pre-deceased by father Ernest L. (D1934). He is survived by wife Mary and daughter Laura.

Reference: <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/11/18/us/18barcella.html>