



The Law of Three Pinta Family

(L to R) Ian J. Pinta, JD '07;
Bradley C. Pinta, JD '80; and
Michael R. Pinta, JD '83.

FEW FAMILIES CAN BOAST THREE GENERATIONS attending one university. Even fewer can claim three generations entering the same profession. The university, of course, is Suffolk; the profession is law; and the family in question is named Pinta.

The late Irving J. Pinta, JD '53, represented the first generation. His parents immigrated to America from Romania when he was only an infant, and he grew up in Dorchester with limited financial means. He heeded Suffolk's message of access and opportunity, eventually earning his law degree. Thereafter, he founded a successful general practice in Boston, where he worked for decades, instilling in his sons Brad and Michael—the second generation of Pintas to attend Suffolk—"a zeal for the profession."

Bradley C. Pinta, JD '80, was at first a little reluctant to go into the legal profession after earning an undergraduate business degree from Boston College. But as the oldest son, and seeing his father's failing health, he obeyed his family's wishes for him to "work in the law firm to try and create a transition." This goal did not materialize, however. Irving died the day Brad took the bar exam in 1980, the firm closed; and Brad went elsewhere. Today he is a partner in the Quincy firm of Pinta & Schwartzberg, LLP, where he practices business law and commercial litigation with his partner—another Suffolk Law alumnus—Milton Schwartzberg, JD '74.

Like his older brother, Michael R. Pinta, JD '83, followed a path from working for his father, to earning a business degree from Boston College, to studying law at Suffolk. "It was definitely a draw for me to go into the profession, growing up with it throughout my childhood," he says. Now a partner in the Boston firm of Pinta & Eggert, LLP, Michael practices civil litigation and real estate conveyancing with his partner—yet

another Suffolk Law alumnus—Michael D. Eggert, JD '84. His office also has participated in Suffolk Law School's internship program during the past few years.

Taking the family tradition into the twenty-first century is Brad's oldest son, Ian J. Pinta. The 22-year-old, who inherited his grandfather's initials, is now a second-year student at Suffolk Law. Like his father and uncle, Ian received an undergraduate degree in business, but at Washington University in St. Louis, then returned east, where, in addition to his studies, he works for his father a few days a week.

Thinking of his son, Brad noted a key difference between today's law school graduates and those who graduated in the early 1980s. "Today's graduates are totally computer oriented," he said. "Their ability to research and check resources and materials is absolutely phenomenal."

In conjunction with a substantial donation from Irving's closest friend, Donald E. Rodman, DCS '96 (Hon.), Suffolk Law School has honored Irving's memory by naming the research room in the Career Development Office after him. "The generous gift of Mr. Rodman and the Pinta family has helped Suffolk University Law School fulfill its mission to prepare our graduates to enter and advance within the legal profession," says Dean Robert H. Smith. In addition, the family established the *Irving J. Pinta Memorial Award*, a yearly scholarship for a Suffolk student selected to represent the Law School on a national team.

"It's too bad my father isn't here to see Ian go to law school," Brad says. Michael agreed: "One of his deep desires was to have his sons go into practice with him. I wish he'd lived long enough to see that. However, his legacy of excellent education, striving to help people and the love of the law, continue in our family." •

by Steven Withrow