A faculty member at Case Western Reserve University’s School of Law since 1968, Leon Gabinet has touched the lives of many outstanding lawyers. This fall, one former student demonstrated his gratitude in grand fashion.

New York real estate attorney Coleman P. Burke (LAW ’70) returned to the law school during Alumni Weekend to honor Gabinet with a $1.5 million gift in recognition of the veteran professor’s esteemed career. Burke’s commitment will establish the Coleman P. Burke Chair in Honor of Professor Leon Gabinet in the Legal Areas of Tax, Trusts and Estates.

“Professor Gabinet is a gifted teacher who didn’t just teach the law,” says Burke, who is founder and managing partner of Waterfront Properties. “He engaged us with the material and motivated us through questioning and an ever-present sense of humor. Most importantly, he instilled in us a sense of fairness, integrity and service to one’s fellow man.”

Gabinet, who teaches courses in corporate tax, estate planning and taxation, federal income tax and tax policy, will be installed as the inaugural recipient of the professorship that bears his and Burke’s names.

“Coley exemplifies the best of our law alumni,” he says. “I am pleased to be the inaugural chairholder.”