



**Abner J. Mikva**

**Class of 1943**

Abner Mikva served as White House Counsel under President Clinton from 1994 to 1995. Prior to his appointment, he served as Chief Judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. He was appointed to the bench in 1979 after being elected to Congress for five terms. Judge Mikva served on both the Ways and Means Committee and the Judiciary Committee while in Congress. He began his political career in 1956 in the Illinois House of Representatives where he served five consecutive terms. While in the state legislature, he served as Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee. Judge Mikva received his law degree from the University of Chicago in 1951, graduating *cum laude*. He was Editor of the Law Review and a member of the Order of the Coif, the national legal honor society. He is a member of Phi Beta Kappa and was a law clerk to United States Supreme Court Justice Sherman Minton. He has taught courses in "The Legislative Process" at Northwestern University, Georgetown University, the University of Pennsylvania, American University, the University of Chicago, the University of Illinois, and a course in "Legal Ethics" at Duke University. He has co-authored political science and law school textbooks. He has received the Paul H. Douglas Ethics in Government Award and the Alumni Medal of the University of Chicago. He was recently elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

In 2014, Abner Mikva was Awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

**Inducted into the Hall of Fame on March 5, 2001**