Rather, he sought to develop his students’ own understanding and abilities. His skillful
questioning enabled students, many of whom had little experience with live theater, to analyze
the plays they read with insight and depth. To contextualize his students’ reading, to enable them
to experience plays as dramatic productions not just written texts, Louis arranged for them to
attend local dramatic productions when possible and brought in films of plays when nothing live
was available. Louis was a demanding teacher who expected a lot from his students and who
helped them achieve the highest level of work of which they were capable. His reputation as a
teacher drew students to his classes no matter the subject.
Louis considered service to the university as second only to teaching in its value to Cleveland
State, so his service and administrative duties frequently pulled him from the classroom. The list

Manhattan that Louis loved. He will be sorely missed by his former students, his colleagues, and
his friends. For me Louis was first a mentor, then a trusted colleague, and finally a dear friend.
His death leaves a gap that nothing will fill.
Written by Professor Emeritus Dr. David Larson and
delivered to Faculty Senate on February 5, 2020