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Joe McGinnis, R.I.P.

By [David Post](#)

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A wonderful obituary by Gene Weingarten [in the Post here of Joe McGinnis](#), author of (among other things) *Fatal Vision*, a book Weingarten calls one of the best non-fiction books ever written – and I have to agree. If you haven't read it, it's worth a look – absolutely compelling stuff.

[David Post](#) David Post is currently Professor of Law at the Beasley School of Law at Temple University, where he teaches intellectual property law and the law of cyberspace. He is also a Fellow at the Center for Democracy and Technology, an Adjunct Scholar at the Cato Institute, and a member of the Board of Trustees of the Nexa Center for Internet and Society. Professor Post is the author of *In Search of Jefferson's Moose: Notes on the State of Cyberspace* (Oxford, 2009) (see <http://jeffersonsmoose.org>), a Jeffersonian view of Internet law and policy described as “astonishing” (Lawrence Lessig), “brilliant, and a joy to read” (Jonathan Zittrain), and “an authentic work of genius, conceived and written in the finest Jeffersonian spirit” (Sean Wilentz). He is also co-author of *Cyberlaw: Problems of Policy and Jurisprudence in the Information Age* (West, 2007) (with Paul Schiff Berman and Patricia Bellia), and numerous scholarly articles on intellectual property, the law of cyberspace, and complexity theory. He has been a regular columnist for the *American Lawyer* and *InformationWeek*, a commentator on the Lehrer News Hour, Court TV's Supreme Court Preview, NPR's *All Things Considered*, BBC's *World*, and recently was featured in the PBS documentary *The Supreme Court*. After receiving a Ph.D. in physical anthropology, he taught in the Anthropology Department at Columbia University before attending Georgetown Law Center, from which he graduated summa cum laude in 1986. After clerking with then-Judge Ruth Bader Ginsburg on the DC Circuit Court of Appeals, he spent 6 years at the Washington D.C. law firm of Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering, after which he then clerked again for Justice Ginsburg during her first term at the Supreme Court (1993-94), before joining the faculty of the Georgetown University Law Center (1994 1997) and then Temple University Law School (1997 present).