

# George F. Keenan (1901-1967): In Memoriam

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## GEORGE F. KEENAN IN MEMORIAM

George Keenan was a man of varied parts. A scholar and teacher, he found time for law practice and public service.

Professor Keenan was associated with the law faculty over a period of thirty years. Half or more of our graduates are products of classes conducted by him.

Gentle in manner and yet always in command of his classes, George Keenan based his lectures on a solid foundation of many years of painstaking research and practical experience in his chosen fields. Yet his depth of knowledge did not bring with it an undue attachment to technical legal rules or a doctrinaire assumption that the last word had been spoken on any legal issue. He constantly searched for justice, fairness and equity amidst the many technicalities of the areas of law with which he dealt.

Professor Keenan was revered and respected by his colleagues and by the student body. His counsel was eagerly sought by students and faculty members alike. Over the years he advised and encouraged many of the younger

faculty as they were beginning their careers. Cheerful and friendly conversation was his stock in trade at faculty and other gatherings. His presence graced the Law School as it did other realms of his life. His wit, charm and professional competence were an inspiration to all. His dignity and high sense of ethics served to remind us that the law is indeed a noble profession.

We miss George Keenan. His place will never quite be filled. But he lives on for us at the Law School in the imprint he has left on the faculty and the graduates.

HAROLD F. MCNIECE.\*

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\* Dean of St. John's University School of Law.