

A Memorial to Professor George F. Keenan (Resolution adopted March 30, 1967)

Faculty of St. John's University School of Law

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A MEMORIAL TO PROFESSOR
GEORGE F. KEENAN *

The sudden death on March 22, 1967, of George F. Keenan, Professor of Law, St. John's University School of Law, marked the end of a distinguished career in legal education and public service.

Professor Keenan, a native of New York, received his Bachelor of Arts degree from St. John's University, and his Bachelor of Laws degree from Fordham University. He is survived by his wife, a daughter, two sons, one sister and two brothers.

Appointed to the Law School Faculty in 1937, Professor Keenan served as Associate Professor until 1942. In 1943 he became associated with the law firm of Milbank, Tweed, Hope and Hadley. In 1949 he rejoined the faculty as a full Professor. During the years 1956 through 1958, at the request of the then Mayor of the City of New York, Professor Keenan obtained a leave of absence from the faculty to serve as a Special Assistant to the Mayor.

His areas of expertise were property, wills, trusts and future interests. He authored a book entitled, NEW YORK LAW OF WILLS, DESCENT AND DISTRIBUTION.

A man of deep commitment to the legal profession and legal education, he personified the essential ingredients of a superb teacher. His preparation was constant, his

* Resolution adopted by the Faculty of St. John's University School of Law, March 30, 1967.

understanding profound, his insights accurate and his ability to communicate unerring. His erudition was sprinkled with a liberal portion of wit and humor. Underlying all was a deep-seated integrity of character grounded in a love of God and a respect for His and man's law.

He was noted by successive classes of graduates for his ability to reduce some of the most complicated aspects of the law of future interests into readily understandable form. Always zealous for the quality of legal education, he devoted much of his time to discussions with younger members of the faculty in an effort to afford them the benefit of his long years of experience.

All who knew him are profoundly saddened by his death: his family by the loss of a devoted husband, father and brother, his students of an inspired teacher and counsellor, his colleagues of a warm friend and the profession of a dedicated educator.