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Joseph R. Crowley - An Integral Part of Fordham Law School

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WHEN I first met Joe Crowley we were both students at Fordham Law School, which was then located at the Woolworth Building. He was a member of the class of 1948 and I graduated in 1947. I remember that Joe had a very outgoing personality but regretfully we did not then become friends.

After Joe graduated he clerked for Judge Noonan and then went to the law firm of Satterlee, Warfield and Stephens. In 1957 Dean Mulligan, an astute judge of character and ability, called him to a teaching career.

The wedding of Joe Crowley and Fordham Law School resulted in one of the love affairs of the century. His students loved him not only because he was a great teacher, but also because he treated them with respect and dignity and did everything possible to help further their careers. He loved his students because they were human beings and because they were his students.

The key to Joe Crowley is the word love. His love for his family knew no bounds. He was very proud of his wife, Mary, his children, Paul, Susan and Cathy, and his grandson, Christopher. He loved his faculty colleagues. There was nothing that Joe wouldn't do for a friend, or even a stranger, and he would volunteer even before he was asked. I do not believe that Joe ever felt any animosity towards anyone. He was a wonderful companion and a great friend.

Joe's specialty was labor law. He was a consummate labor lawyer and recognized as a leader in the field. I sat in with him on a few negotiations and his knowledge of the field, his charm, wit and understanding of human nature always carried the day. One could learn from Joe just by watching him. He well deserved his appointment as a member of the Public Employment Relations Board.

In 1982 Professor Crowley became Associate Dean Crowley. He accepted the position not because he wanted recognition or material gain. In accepting this position he was again manifesting his unselfish love for the Law School. The position involves a great deal of hard work and very little glory. Dean Feerick always says that he never would have survived without Joe's help and support.

In recognition of his many contributions to the Law School—for example, he established the Corporate Law Institute—Joe was named Cameron Professor of Law in 1983. The prior occupant of this Chair

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had been Professor Leonard Manning. It is fitting that these two saintly men should have occupied the same Chair.

Joe's infectious charm and his ever cheerful countenance will be sorely missed. As Ray O'Keefe stated almost immediately after the funeral, "I miss him already."