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In Memoriam of Professor George D. Horning Jr.

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IN MEMORIAM
of
PROFESSOR GEORGE D.
HORNING, JR.

DEAN GORDON A. CHRISTENSON

If we could personify the Canons of Ethics in our professor, they would be embodied in the remarkable constellation of virtues, talents, and achievements in the life of George David Horning, Jr. He was as selfless as he was zealous in promoting the professional and intellectual growth of those he taught. He was loyal to his profession and its organizations, generous in his relations with colleagues, just in his judgments, and unflagging in his pursuit of excellence. He brooked no compromise in his ethical standards. He brought great mind, spirit, and personality to bear upon his work; and at an age when many men would have begun enjoying the fruits of a well-earned rest, he was still communicating his vast experience in law to the young with unsurpassed vitality and discipline. In an age when the legal profession itself has sometimes seemed to reverberate with the confusion of the times, he was from first to last his own inimitable self: steadfast, stout-hearted, irrepressible. He was a gentleman of what is erroneously called old-fashioned courtesy, but which in reality is the art form of humanity. Even his sternest lectures were mannerly.

On a personal note, he was very kind to me and my wife when we arrived at the Law School. He and his wife, Eleanor, invited us to their family's cottage in Eaglesmere, Pennsylvania and made us part of their lives. He took great pleasure in showing me the lake, the surrounding villages, and introducing us to his friends.

One day, when I first began my decanal responsibilities, he walked into my office and said to me as he might have to a young colleague or students, "Remember, to run a tight ship, you must organize, deputize, and supervise!"

I think I can speak for many of my colleagues and the student body in recalling these words from Shakespeare:

The oldest hath borne most: we that are young,
Shall never see so much, nor live so long.