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DEDICATION

JOHN L. GARVEY: A TRIBUTE

Chiseled into the limestone façade of the entrance to the law school building are sixteen words selected by the faculty as those virtues and values to which all lawyers should aspire: Trust, Charity, Wisdom, Fidelity, Compassion, Truth, Equality, Justice, Liberty, Fairness, Community, Service, Integrity, Learning, Honesty, and Conscience. The idea for this listing came from John L. Garvey, Whiteford Professor of Law.

In a very real way, these simple, yet powerful, words both characterize and, indeed, mark the life of the dedicatee of this volume of the *Catholic University Law Review*—a man whose collective experiences as a student and colleague span well over four decades of distinguished service and selfless dedication. Indeed, integrity, wisdom, and service may well be the central hallmarks of John Garvey's character—a character tied to a dedication to the values of human dignity.

In so far as it is possible for any human being to be both wise and worldly wise, to be selfless in any material sense, to have no envy, jealousy, vanity, or conceit, to harbor neither malice nor hatred (seldom even moved to anger), and to always be reliable, considerate, generous, and never cheap, John comes as close to that as can be done. He is a kind and gentle man—noble and exemplary—yet one of exceptional spiritual and moral conviction, all without being rigid, false, or pious. Unfailingly considerate, as well as solid in demeanor and character, John Garvey personifies professional dignity and courtesy. In a fast-paced society where courtesy is increasingly rare, it is refreshing to witness John's old-world charm and civility.

John L. Garvey received his A.B. degree from Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1945 and his LL.B. from The Catholic University of America in 1948. After engaging in the private practice of law in Covington and Erlanger, Kentucky, and teaching law for five years here at the Columbus School of Law, he commenced his post graduate studies at the University of Michigan Law School. There, John earned an LL.M. degree in 1957 and, in 1967, was awarded the S.J.D., the highest research degree in law. Xavier University conferred the LL.D. degree, *honoris causa*, upon him in 1978.

Few teachers at The Catholic University's Columbus School of Law have surpassed the breadth of John L. Garvey's three lives in the law: as

scholar, teacher, and Dean. Building upon his post-graduate degree work, John's professional scholarship has centered in the field of Trusts and Estates.¹ He has had a significant impact on the development of the District of Columbia's Probate Code and has made many valuable contributions to the work of the American Law Institute and American College of Probate Counsel.

Students have praised uniformly his encyclopedic knowledge of his subject area and his thorough class preparations. Indeed, his life has been an adventure in learning shared with his students. Notwithstanding his towering intellect, his students were never intimidated; rather, exposure to John Garvey's penetrating understanding of the law stimulated his students to think more clearly and deeply. One student referred to John as a teacher in the style and manner of the late, great motion picture star, Jimmy Stewart: a quiet, deliberate man with a wry sense of humor and a powerful, commanding intellect.

The late Professor Curtis Berger of Columbia University summed up aptly what John Garvey has stood for as a teacher, when he said:

I think that we as teachers must let our students know that we value their humane as well as intellectual qualities—and our own as well as theirs. For unless lawyers value the compassionate in themselves, I think they will be incapable of carrying about the human needs of others.²

We witnessed John Garvey's courage to step up to the challenges of

1. See A CENTURY OF SCHOLARSHIP: FACULTY PUBLICATIONS 1897-1997 37 (Valorie A. Britain ed., Catholic Univ. of America, Columbus School of Law, 1999). Professor Garvey's scholarly writing runs the gamut from books to encyclopedia entries. See, e.g., PROBATE COURT PRACTICE IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA (Supps. 1980, 1977, 1975, 1972, 1970, 1967, 1965, 1962, 1960); THE PROBATE REFORM ACT OF 1980 (with Michael Curtin); YOUNG LAWYERS SECTION OF THE BAR ASSOCIATION OF D.C., WILL AND TESTAMENTARY TRUST FORMS (1974) (with others); *The Ohio Law of Trusts and the Uniform Probate Code*, in COMPARATIVE PROBATE LAW STUDIES (American Law Institute 1976); *Drafting Wills and Trusts: Anticipating the Birth and Death of Possible Beneficiaries*, 71 OR. L. REV. 47 (1992); *Revocable Gifts of Legal Interests in Land*, 54 KY. L.J. 19 (1965); *Revocable Gifts of Personal Property: A Possible Will Substitute*, 16 CATH. U. L. REV. 119 (1966); *Revocable Gifts of Personal Property, Part I*, 16 CATH. U. L. REV. 119 (1966); *Revocable Gifts of Personal Property, Part II*, 16 CATH. U. L. REV. 256 (1967); *Some Aspects of the Merger of Law and Equity*, 10 CATH. U. L. REV. 59 (1961); 17 CATH. U. L. REV. 394 (1968) (reviewing W. BARTON LEACH, PROPERTY LAW INDICTED! (1956)); 8 CATH. U. L. REV. 53 (1959) (reviewing WILLIAM Q. DEFUNIACK, HANDBOOK OF MODERN EQUITY, SECOND EDITION (1956)); 5 CATH. U. L. REV. 123 (1955) (reviewing SIDNEY HYMAN, THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT (1954)); *Charitable Trusts (U.S.)*, in THE NEW CATHOLIC ENCYCLOPEDIA (McGraw Hill 1967); *Wills and Intestacy*, in THE NEW CATHOLIC ENCYCLOPEDIA (McGraw Hill 1967).

2. Curtis Berger, *The Heart of the Law is the Heart of the Lawyer*, N.Y. TIMES, July 6, 1976, at 25.

law school administration in 1977 when then President of the University, Dr. Clarence C. Walton, persuaded him to accept the Deanship of the Columbus School of Law at a particularly volatile period in its history. Previously, he had held the Associate Deanship from 1963-69. Upon the conclusion of his term, the University Board of Trustees presented him with a Citation of Honor, which not only acknowledged his administrative contributions during his decanal tenure, but praised his personal qualities and integrity, "his dedication to ideals of Catholic higher education," and his insightful scholarship.³

In 1981, Pope John Paul II conferred a special Apostolic Blessing on Professor Garvey. In honor of his distinguished service to the University, His Holiness presented the Benemerenti Medal to him in 1984.

In 1982, the *Catholic University Law Review* recognized John's significant contributions to the University and the Law School—citing his "constancy, commitment and quality" in legal education as an exemplary classroom teacher and one whose probing scholarship has enhanced the law.⁴ For his strong support over the years, the Moot Court Association presented Professor Garvey with the Brendan Brown Award in 1985.⁵ Then, in 1991, the Faculty passed a Resolution of Gratitude in recognition of John's forty years of service to the Law School, expressing its "admiration and appreciation" for his "extraordinary record of service," "unquestioned integrity," "caring concern for students," and "professional collegiality." It is now altogether fitting and proper, therefore, that the law school community, through the *Catholic University Law Review*, record an appreciation to Professor John L. Garvey as he embarks on his retirement from full-time teaching.

We each create and define ourselves through our actions. It remains for others to admire and seek to emulate those among us who have taught lessons in honor, respect, and fair-mindedness. Such are the lessons John Garvey leaves with us as he retires from the Law Faculty.

John has maintained a great and life-long fascination with American Colonial history. Pursuing this interest has entailed semi-annual visits to Williamsburg, Virginia, with side trips to Yorktown, Jamestown, and Busch Gardens. When his two sons, John and Larry, were youngsters, these trips were educational. Now, they are relaxing excursions. Supported in his endeavors throughout his life by his charming wife, Vir-

3. George P. Smith II & Francis J. Hearn, Jr., *John L. Garvey: A Man of Integrity, Wisdom and Modesty*, 5 J. CONTEMP. HEALTH L. & POL'Y viii (1989).

4. 31 CATH. U. L. REV., Issue 4 (1982).

5. The Brendan Brown Award is named after the sixth Dean of the Columbus School of Law, Dr. Brendan Francis Brown (1949-54).

ginia, we can only wish them both many more pleasant trips to Williamsburg and its environs. We look forward also to his continued counsel and friendship for many years to come.

The *Catholic University Law Review*, on behalf of the Columbus School of Law at The Catholic University of America, dedicates this volume to Professor John L. Garvey in grateful recognition of his scholarly achievements and academic leadership. We appreciate the guidance and support of Professors George P. Smith and Roger Hartley in preparing this *Dedication*. As he retires, Professor Garvey bestows upon our community a legacy of academic excellence, wisdom, and compassion that will serve as a model for all those who teach and study law at The Catholic University of America.