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Dedication-Leon H. Wallace

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Bloomington



Dedication—Leon H. Wallace

*The Board of Editors dedicates this issue to the late Leon H. Wallace,
former Dean and Professor of Law.*

JESSE E. ESCHBACH*

I join in the dedication of this issue of the *Indiana Law Journal* to Leon H. Wallace, a distinguished lawyer, a brilliant scholar, and a dedicated teacher. My admiration and respect for Leon Wallace began with my experience as a student at the Indiana University School of Law in 1946. My appreciation for his substantial and significant contributions to the life of the law school grew steadily after that time. In his quiet way, Leon Wallace became for his students a lasting example of what greatness really means in our profession.

Leon Wallace received his law degree from Indiana University in 1933, graduating as one of the highest ranking students in the history of the school. He practiced law in Terre Haute, Indiana, until he joined the law faculty in 1945. During the years of his association with the law school, both as Dean and teacher, few will ever forget the great progress and national reputation achieved by the Indiana University School of Law. From 1966 until his retirement in May 1974, he held the distinguished Charles McGuffey Hepburn Professorship of Law, Indiana University's first named chair in law.

Perhaps Leon Wallace will be best remembered in his role as concerned teacher and understanding friend. Even while discharging the burdensome responsibilities of Dean, he always found time for the worried student. The

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students' problems became Leon Wallace's concerns. Certainly his expertise in many fields of the law was remarkable, but his quiet dedication to helping solve the problems of his fellow men will remain as the real monument to his career. Reflection on his years of devoted service brings to mind an old Hindu proverb, which so aptly describes his approach to the law school community:

Help thy brother's boat across, and
lo! thine own has reached the shore.

F. REED DICKERSON*

Leon Harry Wallace, lawyer, teacher, scholar, historian, cartographer, author, administrator, public servant, loyal Hoosier, and gentleman was a person who drew deep satisfaction from a life-long love affair with Indiana and Indiana University, to both of which he contributed generously.

Born in Terre Haute, he entrusted his first two years of undergraduate study to the University of Illinois, a youthful indiscretion that he later corrected by taking his last two years and an A.B. degree at Indiana. Soon after graduation, he sharpened his geographical (and perhaps other) perspectives by a stint as production manager for Rand, McNally & Company in San Francisco, before yielding to the urge to become a lawyer, an urge that brought a law degree at Indiana in 1933 followed by a twelve-year affiliation with a leading Terre Haute law firm.

Spurred, perhaps, by having married into a distinguished and long-standing academic tradition, and despite substantial financial sacrifice, he determined, in 1945, to share his legal insights with the young by accepting a law teaching position at the Law School in Bloomington. Here he quickly moved, in a mere seven years, from associate professor to professor to acting dean to dean. In this last capacity, which included responsibility also for the now autonomous Law School in Indianapolis, he served with devotion from 1952 to 1966, counting as one of his major Bloomington achievements the funding and development of a fine new law building. Since that time, he contributed memorable studies on legislative reapportionment and state boundary disputes while occupying the distinguished Charles McGuffey Hepburn Professorship of Law. Both studies reflect the meticulous care that marks the authentic scholar.

* Professor Emeritus, Indiana University School of Law

Perhaps his greatest talent as administrator and pedagogue was the ability to develop and maintain an extraordinary fund of confidence, loyalty, and respect among the law alumni and members of the state bar at large, a bond so strong and so permanent that it can be explained only by his intense personal interest in the student as an individual, his patience as a listener, and his impressive qualities of perceptiveness, decency, and compassion.

Despite his indefatigable dedication to Indiana University, Dean Wallace managed to accumulate an impressive list of accomplishments beyond Bloomington and even beyond the state. His contributions to state and municipal government included his chairmanship of the United States District Court's advisory panel on legislative apportionment and his service as the Governor's representative on the Indiana Constitution Revision Commission and as consultant to the State in the Indiana-Kentucky boundary dispute. His federal contribution included service as a special hearing officer for the United States Department of Justice.

His professional affiliations confirm the judgment that his interest in the law and public affairs was not parochial. His many memberships included the American Bar Association (which he served as chairman of the Section of Local Government Law); the Indiana, Indianapolis, and Monroe County bar associations; the American Law Institute; Order of the Coif; and the professional legal fraternity Phi Delta Phi, which he served as president during the period 1949-51. His non-legal affiliations included the American Academy of Social and Political Sciences, the Academy of Political Science, and the fraternities Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Delta Chi, and Delta Tau Delta.

Dean Wallace's conscientiousness, quiet competence, prodigious memory, general thoughtfulness, modesty, and gentleness of spirit were qualities that are of increasing value in an uncertain world. For these, as for his many tangible accomplishments and the privilege of enjoying their fruits, we warmly salute him.

