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Dedication: Dean Joseph O'Meara

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NOTRE DAME LAWYER

Dean Joseph O'Meara came to the University of Notre Dame Law School just before I began my tenure as President some fifteen years ago. I recall interviewing him while I was Executive Vice President. He said, "If I come, I will not be an easy person to get along with. I will demand the best at whatever cost"; and he did. Our only mandate to him was that we wanted a first-rate professional school, at whatever cost. This good intention was sorely tried when the enrollment was halved and the University subsidy for 120 students became \$120,000. However, we had made a deal and we honored it. He delivered what he promised, and despite the agony — financial and personal — we were happy to see the Law School grow and prosper in national recognition.

I know that all of this cost Dean O'Meara a great deal in time, talent, effort, and dedication. But I know it was all worthwhile, both for him and for Notre Dame — and especially for all the lawyers he produced.

How does one thank a Dean for giving his all? I don't know, but I suspect that the results of his Herculean efforts are the best reward. Like the winds of time, words come and go, but personal results live on in the lives of those they affect.

Let us say then that Notre Dame is mightily proud of Dean O'Meara, of his School and its graduates, and of the legal ideals that he portrays and represents in his person. Having said this, there is no higher praise and no more heartfelt gratitude.

*(Rev.) Theodore M. Hesburgh, C.S.C.
President, University of Notre Dame*