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Tribute

Honorable G. Joseph Cardine

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Tribute

*G. Joseph Cardine**

I have known George Rudolph as my teacher, colleague, as a scholar, and, most importantly, as my friend. I first met George Rudolph in 1951 when I enrolled as a student in the University of Wyoming College of Law. The faculty then consisted of five professors. They were Robert R. Hamilton, Dean, Eugene Kuntz, Frank J. Trelease, E. George Rudolph, and John Rames. This faculty was truly outstanding. They were knowledgeable, expert in their field, and great teachers. I have often reflected upon how fortunate I was to have known and been a student of the College of Law faculty in the early 1950s.

George Rudolph graduated from the University of Michigan where he was on the board of editors of the Michigan Law Review and a member of the Order of Coif. He practiced law as an associate with the Chicago law firm of Snyder, Chadwell and Fagerburg until 1947 when, at the urging of Dean Robert Hamilton, George came west and joined the faculty at the University of Wyoming College of Law. George was my teacher in 1952 for tax courses and business organizations. That was 35 years ago. So much time has passed. Memories dim. I do remember, however, that no matter how far back I sat in the class or how often I changed my seat, George always seemed to find me and call on me; and he claimed that he did not remember having called on me the previous day AND the day before that.

I know George as a scholar with a keen insight into complicated and difficult areas of the law. This skill is exemplified in his writing. What an enormous achievement it is to author a book in a specialized field of law. George Rudolph has authored two books, both of which are relied upon extensively by practicing Wyoming lawyers. His first book was *THE WYOMING LAW OF REAL MORTGAGES* in which he generously recognized Justice Blume, stating that there were a substantial number of exceptionally fine opinions by the Wyoming Supreme Court in the mortgage area. Justice Blume in particular seems to have taken a special interest in the subject, and a number of his opinions rate as classics in the field.

More recently, George authored a volume, in excess of 400 pages, entitled *WYOMING GOVERNMENT LAW*. The book is a detailed, excellent analysis of the statutes and cases dealing with government law.

In 1977, George Rudolph offered me a teaching position on the faculty of the college of law teaching torts and trial practice. I accepted immediately and will be forever indebted to George for giving me that opportunity. It is an experience I will always remember and treasure. We were colleagues and close friends. His office was adjacent to mine, and he was generous with his advice on a wide range of subjects from tax and investments to fishing, sports and preparation of final exams—though, he never

*Justice, Supreme Court of Wyoming

revealed his most secret fishing places. Once, when I was mired in the difficult task of preparing my torts final, George suggested that I ask the same questions as in the previous year, but change the answers.

George Rudolph was Dean of the College of Law from 1971 to 1979. He presided over the construction of the present College of Law building, moving from the old building to the new building, and building the law school to its present enrollment and high stature. As Dean of the law school, his decisions on difficult questions were always solid, right on target, and his judgment was infallible. I count George Rudolph as a close friend, but most importantly as a good and decent man.