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Tribute

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Tribute

*Charles G. Kepler**

E. GEORGE RUDOLPH

An Excellent Teacher of the Law

The rumors are wrong. E. George Rudolph has not retired. He is spending more time fishing and less time analyzing the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1987. After over 40 years of teaching, it is only right that George have more time to pursue his favorite hobby.

George arrived in Laramie in the fall of 1947 to teach law at the University of Wyoming College of Law. There was no question in the minds of his first class but that he would be an outstanding teacher. Time has more than confirmed that original assessment. George had a dry sense of humor that caused his first class a bit of trouble. It might be several days before you decided George had cracked a joke instead of making a point of law. Sometimes you concluded he had done both, but in any event you kept alert. Reports from more recent students indicate he still has the dry sense of humor and you still remain alert in his classes.

It would be difficult to imagine anyone who has had a more profound and beneficial influence on Wyoming law than George Rudolph. From the best information available it appears George has taught nearly 1,500 students, some of them taking as many as three courses from him during their three years in law school. Considering the size of the Wyoming State Bar, that is a very large percentage of the lawyers who learned their basic law from George.

Not only has George taught law in the classroom, he has written widely on a large number of legal matters. His *THE WYOMING LAW OF REAL MORTGAGES* (Wyo. Law Inst., 1969) and *WYOMING LOCAL GOVERNMENT LAW* (Wyo. State Bar, 1985) are the source law for the Wyoming practicing lawyers. George has also written numerous articles for the *Wyoming Law Journal*, *Land and Water Law Review*, *Harvard Law Review*, *Michigan Law Review*, *Business Law*, *Tax Law Review*, and *Journal of Corporate Law*. His writing like his teaching is well organized and concise.

It is important to the law profession that the bench, bar and law school maintain a close working relationship. George has certainly promoted this relationship actively participating as a member of the state bar and cooperating with the bench. Among other things, George chaired the bar's Committee on Corporation Law from 1958 to 1961 and was the prime mover in adapting the Model Business Corporation Act to fit Wyoming's needs and then convincing the Wyoming Legislature to pass the Act. He served as a member and co-chairman of the Continuing Legal Education Committee from 1965 through 1984 and is entitled to much of the credit for the very successful CLE program conducted in the state.

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One must not overlook George's service to this state as a Special Assistant Attorney General from 1953 through 1964 and his service as Dean of the College of Law from 1971 through 1979 and again as Acting Dean in 1984 and in 1987. During George's tenure two new law school buildings have been built with George actively working on raising the funds to finance the construction and in designing workable facilities.

George has been and is now an outstanding teacher of the law. It is good that he is not retiring for that would be a great loss to the legal profession of this state. George well deserves the tribute of dedicating in his honor this issue of the Land and Water Law Review for his 40 years plus devoted to teaching law to budding Wyoming lawyers.

One suspects George has thoroughly enjoyed his teaching career. A successful person usually does enjoy what he is doing.