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Jim McGoldrick

Carol A. Chase*

Jim McGoldrick was my colleague, mentor and friend. He taught me how to care for students as only one who cared deeply for students could do. He encouraged me to take on challenges, whether it was taking on a new course or standing up for what I believed in the face of opposition. He was the type of rare and valuable friend who would give you his honest opinion, even if it was “I could not disagree with you more.” He loved to laugh and was adept at making others laugh.

Jim was a frequent faculty speaker at the law school’s annual graduation breakfast. The speaker is chosen by the graduating students, and Jim once claimed that his selection was the result of the other two faculty members in the running being very positive and optimistic individuals. “They divided the vote from students wanting to hear ‘nice,’ and I got the votes from those wanting to hear ‘naughty,’” he claimed with a familiar twinkle in his eye. Not true. He was selected because his excellence in the classroom and his devotion to his students made him a student favorite, and he could be counted on to be absolutely hilarious, especially when his remarks poked fun at other faculty members and the law school administration. Jim loved his students, and they loved him back.

Jim was deeply devoted to his family. He spoke often and proudly of his son and daughter and adoringly of his granddaughter. He and Jan were a picture of happiness. And he enjoyed the company of his dogs, one of which occasionally accompanied Jim into his office. He was a kind and generous friend to members of the law school staff, and he greatly appreciated their role in shaping the law school and facilitating its mission.

Always a brilliant classroom teacher, in recent years Jim found a renewed interest in undertaking legal scholarship. His sharp intellect made him well-suited to engaging in the critical thinking that is the basis of good legal scholarship and he seemed to genuinely enjoy the process of researching and writing law review articles. Thus it seems particularly fitting that *Pepperdine Law Review* has dedicated this volume to Jim McGoldrick, honoring his life and his career at Pepperdine Law Caruso School of Law.

Farewell, my friend, until we meet again.

* Professor Emeritus, Pepperdine Caruso School of Law.

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Jim McGoldrick
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