We Remember

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We Remember

John R. Price*

A year ago we were saddened by the sudden and untimely death of Ted Stein, one of our most talented teachers and scholars. Ted, who was only 32 at the time of his death, drowned while fishing on the Deschutes River in northern Oregon on June 12, 1985. Although Ted’s teaching career was relatively brief (September, 1980 to June, 1985), it was filled with accomplishments and held even greater promise. His success in the classroom and as a scholar are evidenced by the Law School faculty’s unanimous vote in the fall of 1984 to recommend Ted’s promotion to full professor. My own evaluation of Ted is expressed in the closing sentences of the letter I wrote to the Provost of the University of Washington in support of the faculty’s recommendation: “Following my annual conference with Professor Stein in the spring of 1984, the memorandum I wrote to him concluded, ‘we are delighted to have you with us and performing in the outstanding way we thought you would’. The uniformly high evaluation of Professor Stein’s teaching, scholarship, and service all show the strong basis that supports the faculty’s unanimous vote. I enthusiastically join my colleagues in recommending he be granted tenure and promoted to Professor.”

Ted Stein’s high standards, outstanding performance, energy, and irrepressible good humor continue to serve as an inspiration to his friends and admirers throughout the country. Although the strength of our faculty is diminished because Ted is no longer with us, we were strengthened by his presence, and inspired by his performance. Ted’s life and ideals continue to have meaning and influence through our remembrance of him. As expressed by Ted’s parents in a letter I received from them, “as long as someone remembers, no one is completely dead.”

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