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Distinguished Scholar and Beloved Colleague

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Distinguished Scholar and Beloved Colleague

M. MINNETTE MASSEY*

Dr. Daniel Murray was the personification of an academic craftsman. He often could be found hovering outside a classroom, poised for the previous class to leave so he could hurriedly sketch his diagrams and presentations on the blackboard before his students arrived. Never a moment wasted. Dr. Murray's classroom analysis progressed with such speed, in fact, that his students affectionately referred to him as "Machine-Gun Murray."

Dan had been a decorated infantryman in Europe during World War II before he entered the University of Miami School of Law. Upon his graduation as second in the Class of 1949, he went into private practice. But Dan soon began helping out his alma mater as a part time lecturer in aviation law. Eight years later, in 1957, he joined the full-time faculty, and for the ensuing thirty-nine years he was the ultimate utility infielder, teaching courses in agency, appellate briefing, aviation, bills and notes, domestic relations, evidence, mortgages, property, and Introduction to Law, before settling into commercial law and international sales.

After completing his LL.M. and J.S.D. at New York University in 1963, Dan received a four-year Ford Foundation Fellowship to study civil and criminal procedure in Spain, Guatemala, Mexico, and Peru. For four summers, Betty and then-first-grader Clay joined Dad in the studies he savored. With Dan, of course, the fellowship bore fruit – nine law review articles and a co-authored casebook, *The Administration of Criminal Justice*, published in 1966, with a second edition in 1969.

This multi-dimensional professor was honored with many well-earned awards: Professor of the Year; Outstanding Professor, Lawyer of the Americas, among them. A modest man, Dan would no more trumpet these academic honors than he would those that had been bestowed by the Army, which included a Purple Heart and not one but two Bronze Stars.

One could see Professor Murray's dedication to scholarship in his "workshop" – the ground-floor office where he sat, in his signature bow tie, surrounded by library trolleys overflowing with treatises, statutes, reporters, and papers. On every surface, he taped notes – Post its before

* Professor of Law, University of Miami School of Law. This eulogy was delivered March 4, 2004, at the Mass of the Resurrection for Daniel E. Murray.

there were Post its – about his ever-changing set of works in progress. And what works! He averaged more than two articles a year, for a total of eighty seven. And then there are the two books. All the while, he was serving, from 1958 to 1993, as faculty advisor of the University of Miami Law Review.

The door to Dan's workshop always stood open – to colleagues, alumni, and members of the Bar, but especially to his students.