

4-1-2001

Professor Richard A. Hausler

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Recommended Citation

M. Minnette Massey, *Professor Richard A. Hausler*, 55 U. Miami L. Rev. 349 (2001)

Available at: <http://repository.law.miami.edu/umlr/vol55/iss3/7>

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Professor Richard A. Hausler

BY M. MINNETTE MASSEY

It is impossible to enjoy theatre without feeling the presence of our friend and teacher, Professor Richard Hausler. He loved the theatre and life was his stage. The classroom was center stage. The stage is empty now, the lights are extinguished. The warmth and glow of his performance, however, lasts forever.

The world was his stage, the classroom was Richard Hausler's favorite venue. Professor Hausler did not "go to class;" he made an entrance. The classroom was center stage in his life. Every day was opening night. Each class was a master class. Classical theatre was a way of life. Any one who knew him cannot enjoy a play without a sense of Richard's presence. His memory is indelibly with us. He was a little bit of Broadway in Miami.

His personality and presence reflected his love of life. Dramatic, provocative, whimsical, challenging were all reflected in his actions. This persona was apparent in his choice of clothing and furnishings. Everything about him, and sometimes everyone around him, had more sparkle in his company. No task was beneath him. All things were done for the common good whether at home, church or school. His love of dining and childlike fondness for chocolate gave a boyishness to his elegant carriage and demeanor. There was an open warmth to his unique persona. Originality and creativity were but two of Richard's trademarks. He had the ability to establish a cordial relationship with all—and all were welcome to his world. He had rapport with everyone in or connected to the University of Miami Law School. He established a very warm and individual contact with each member of the law school community. There was mutual respect and a feeling of caring and connection. Each of us knew him differently and yet all the same. This steadiness of character was a hallmark. His contribution to the institution and to each of us was meaningful. All deeply mourn his passing.

Good-night, sweet Prince,
And flights of angels sing thee to thy rest!¹

1. WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE, HAMLET, act 5, sc. 2.