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Tribute to Regis W. Campfield

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TRIBUTE TO REGIS W. CAMPFIELD

*Dr. Charles O. Galvin**

It is my privilege to honor Regis W. Campfield, Marilyn Jeanne Johnson Distinguished Law Faculty Fellow and Professor of Law, on his retirement after thirty-two years of service to the SMU Dedman School of Law.

When Regis accepted the offer to join the SMU faculty, he was then and remains, well-known for his accomplishments in taxation of estates. He holds degrees from the University of Notre Dame and the University of Virginia Law School. Regis has published a number of books, including *Estate Planning and Drafting*, *Taxation of Estates*, and *Gifts and Trusts*.

During his tenure at Notre Dame Law School, Regis founded the Notre Dame Tax and Estate Planning Institute, a successful continuing legal education program, which is an annual review of developments in the law in his fields of specialty. I first met Regis when he invited me to speak on a panel for the Institute, and I observed firsthand his excellent knowledge of theory and practice in sophisticated estate planning.

Upon accepting the offer to join SMU in 1977, Regis moved his family to Dallas, the hometown of his wife, Mary. Through the years, he has cared for his wife, daughters, and grandchildren with kindness and concern. At one point, Regis and Mary assumed the roles of primary caretakers for their grandchildren while their daughter completed her medical residency, and later they opened their home to care for their elderly parents. Regis's contributions to the discussion of generational transfers of property and influence in the probate code are significant.

Upon his arrival at SMU, Regis complemented an already strong existing tax faculty. His areas of scholarly concentration have been in the fields of wills and trusts, taxation, tax planning, and estate planning. Aside from his teaching, Regis served on important Law School committees, and he faithfully participated in SMU activities along with his wife, Mary, the retired head of the History Department of The Hockaday School of Dallas. He is a past Regent of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel and a past Editor of its *Probate Lawyer*. Additionally, he always remained actively involved in the community.

In my many years of association with Regis Campfield, I always found him to be a highly respected and likable colleague, and now I thank him for his many years of service and wish him an enjoyable and happy retirement.

* Distinguished Professor Emeritus and former Dean, SMU Dedman School of Law.

