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TRIBUTE TO DEAN ROBERT F. BODEN

ROBERT J. KASIETA*

The story is told of the tourist in London who saw many monuments to historic figures. Seeing no such tribute to Christopher Wren, he asked a native where he might find one. Came the reply: "If you seek his monument, look about you." So it is, that there could be no greater homage paid to the memory of Dean Robert F. Boden than the impressive new facility which he inspired at Marquette Law School, the competent faculty and staff which he assembled, and the alumni whose training he supervised. These monuments will outlive any written tributes.

I first came to know Dean Boden late in my second year of law school when I was elected ABA Representative at Marquette. He was unfailingly supportive and understanding during such times as when I proposed that we hold a seminar at the law school featuring the Wisconsin Supreme Court, or when he learned that the SBA President and I overran our expense account on an ABA trip to San Francisco. Dean Boden solved such problems with a quiet smile and shining eyes; he was no stranger to humor.

Eulogies encourage overstatement. This humble tribute carries no such excess; Dean Boden would have wanted none. The Dean was not a back-slapping, glad-handing, garrulous man. Rather, he was most concerned about the students; he viewed them as his sons and daughters. Many of us were helped by the Dean; some of us will never realize the degree to which his support enhanced our success. He was a quiet friend, but a dear friend nonetheless.

Dean Boden not only adopted the students of Marquette Law School, but he also became a patron of the institution itself. He directed the fund-raising effort which revitalized the physical structure of the school. Through his teaching and writing the Dean endowed future members of the bar

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with devotion to the ethical practice of the law. I remember how he spoke of "the Marquette Lawyer." That expression connoted for him all that was best and noble in the practice of law. The self-sacrifice which governed Dean Boden's own life, the level of competence which he attained, his respect for the principles of law and his devotion to Marquette Law School epitomize the admirable traits of the Marquette Lawyer.

Dean Boden may be gone, but his warm memory remains and shall remain with those who benefitted and who yet benefit from lessons learned at the law school. With the Dean's passing, Marquette lost a dear friend — so did I. We shall miss him, but his memory will live wherever law is practiced competently and ethically by Marquette alumni. If you seek his monument, look about you.