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IN MEMORY: PATRICE E. PATTERSON

In addition to the death of Dean Robert F. Boden, the Marquette Law Review suffered a second, and more personal, loss this year. On August 10, 1984, law review member Patrice E. Patterson passed away at age twenty-four. We cherished Patrice, she brought a special enthusiasm and spirit to the entire organization. A week before she passed on she completed a co-authored student Comment on Wisconsin's Marital Property Act. Her article will appear in volume 68 of the Marquette Law Review. As a result of successfully completing this article, Patrice became the only student in her class, and, the first person in recent memory, to earn a position on the law review editorial board while also achieving membership on Marquette Law School's moot court team.

Her academic accomplishments alone paint a narrow and incomplete picture. A more accurate insight of Patrice, and one which better reveals her commitment to a strong and concerned set of values, is gained by looking to several aspects of the legal profession which she most closely embraced. Her favorite law school class was legal ethics. She delighted in that course's unconventional reading list containing such works as Robert Bolt's play on the life of Sir Thomas More, A Man for All Seasons, and Thoreau's Essay on Civil Disobedience. As for employment, despite opportunities for lucrative clerkships in traditional prestigious law firms, Patrice pursued an alternate route. During the school term she worked for Marquette University advising undergraduate students confronted with legal problems. This past summer she volunteered her time and worked at a makeshift legal clinic which served recipients of a local free meal program. There, seated in a metal chair at a card table, in the back room of a hot and crowded church, she counseled the poor and the dispossessed.
There is a scriptural passage found in Daniel, chapter 12, verse 3, which is applicable to the highest ideals that many of us strive for within the legal profession. It is especially relevant when speaking of Patrice Patterson:

But the wise shall shine brightly
like the splendor of the heavens;
And those that lead the many to justice
shall be like the stars forever.

Your place is among the stars, Patrice. We pray, and believe, that you have found a fuller and more perfect life. Thus, when we mourn, it is for ourselves, for what we have lost. We miss you, good luck, and just for now, goodbye.

JOSEPH R. WALL
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