

IN MEMORIAM: MICHELE G. FALKOW

FRANCIS A. CAVANAGH[†]

*Make friends with the angels, who though invisible are always with you. . . . Often invoke them, constantly praise them, and make good use of their help and assistance in all your temporal and spiritual affairs.*¹

As someone about to begin my legal career, my experience, or lack thereof, gives me a certain novice's perspective on the legal profession. Admittedly, I, like most law students, am somewhat ill-equipped to evaluate a professor's scholarly, intellectual contributions to the profession; however, I can speak about a professor's contributions to her students.

Many students have the opportunity to be taught by talented members of the bar, but sadly, few students are so fortunate as to be befriended by true mentors. Mentors are those who teach us, not *just* about the law, but who, through example, teach us to do well and to do good unto others. Mentors need not be giants in their field or giants in stature; they need only inspire us to "pay it forward."

In my mind, a professor's greatest gift to the legal community comes not through publishing scholarly articles, but through the beneficence, decency, and integrity that she shows to her students. By guiding students through even short periods of their careers, professors can have life-long impacts on those individuals, and on every subsequent generation of lawyers.

Long after the reader turns the final page of this issue, we students will remember our mentors. Unlike the ever-changing law, your lessons will always be with us—and we will pay it forward to the next generation, just as you did for us.

[†] Editor-in-Chief, *St. John's Law Review*.

¹ ST. FRANCIS DE SALES, INTRODUCTION TO THE DEVOUT LIFE pt. 2, ch. 16 (Saint Benedict Press 2006) (1609).