

REMEMBRANCE*

My thanks to the *Georgia Law Review* for dedicating this Volume to my former colleague and close friend, Professor Anne Dupre.

In her Dedication and Remembrance in the prior issue, Hillary Miller, the *Review's* Senior Managing Editor, described Professor Dupre as a person who “lived a passionate life.” Passionate indeed is the word that comes to mind when remembering Anne Dupre.

Professor Dupre was one of the most passionate and intense people I have ever known. When she committed to something, she gave it her all. Our law school had the incredible good fortune to have her not only as our graduate but as a member of our faculty, so we benefitted greatly from Professor Dupre’s passionate intensity. She loved our law school in a way that few others ever have, and she was determined to make it an even better place than she found it. And she did.

Professor Dupre was the consummate faculty member. She was a scholar of first rank; her book, *Speaking Up, The Unintended Costs of Free Speech in Public Schools* (Harvard University Press, 2009), is a masterful examination and critique of the Supreme Court’s school speech cases and is but one example of the richness of her scholarly contributions. Experts in her field described her as “first rate,” “an original and independent thinker,” and “one of the most talented scholars working in the field of education and children’s rights.”

Professor Dupre was a caring and committed colleague, and her imprint on our school is a strong and lasting one. She served for years on our Admissions Committee, helping to select our students. It was her idea to establish a Placement Committee, working with our students in their job searches. She chaired our Faculty Recruitment committee during some of our most

* In the Fall 2011 Issue, the *Georgia Law Review* dedicated Volume 46 to the memory of Professor Anne Proffitt Dupre, a beloved alumna and faculty member who left a lasting imprint on the *Review* by serving as its Editor in Chief and later as its faculty advisor. This Remembrance is the second in a series of four tributes to Professor Dupre set to appear in each of the four issues of Volume 46.

ambitious hiring years. She was proud to serve as faculty advisor to the *Georgia Law Review*, using her own student experience as the *Review's* Editor in Chief to counsel and guide students through their own experiences on the *Review*. And at the time she was diagnosed with cancer, she was chairing a review of our first-year curriculum. Simply put, her continuing impact on our law school cannot be overstated.

But Professor Dupre was, first and foremost, a teacher. Professor Dupre cared deeply about legal education. She was determined that her students would not only master legal analysis but that they would leave her classes sharing her awe and respect for the rule of law. She was a demanding classroom teacher who expected her students to meet the very high bar she set for them. Professor Dupre had a well-deserved reputation of expecting excellence from her students, and while they may have entered her classes a bit intimidated or even scared, they left knowing they had learned more from this one person—not only about the law but about their own capabilities as lawyers—than from any other teacher they had ever encountered. As one of her students was overheard remarking to a fellow student when Professor Dupre passed by, “I just stand up straighter when she’s around.” I think we all did.

Professor Dupre inspired her students to be the best they could be. And she did so by example, by giving them the very best that she had. As hard as her students worked, she worked harder, determined to infuse them with her passion for the study of law and with an understanding of the importance of a lawyer’s strong work ethic and a commitment to civility.

Let me share with you some of her own words about teaching:

Although I take great pleasure in noting the impact that my writing has had in the academic world and beyond, it is the impact that I have had on the lives of my students that gives me the greatest pleasure of all. My students come from many different backgrounds—from the hills of Rabun County, from Atlanta, from South Georgia, from other states and countries. Some of these students come from a family of lawyers. Some

students are the first in their family to complete high school. I will never forget the time that I was asked to attend the wedding of a former student who was the first in his family to attend college. At the wedding, the student made a special point of introducing me to his mother stating, “Mom, next to you, this is the person who has had the greatest influence on my life. I never would have stayed the course to become a lawyer without Professor Dupre’s support.” It is moments like this when I am most proud to be a law professor.

Her students are Professor Dupre’s most important, and ultimately her longest lasting, legacy. Through the impact she made on their legal education, their legal careers, and their lives, her influence lives on. She is the teacher I (and I am sure many others of my colleagues) seek to emulate in our own classrooms. We miss her deeply, mourn her daily, and appreciate greatly the gift we received in being able to call her our own.

Rebecca H. White
Dean and J. Alton Hosch Professor of Law
University of Georgia School of Law