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Elliott E. Cheatham

Elliott E. Cheatham received his LL.B. degree at the Harvard Law School in 1911. Needless to say, he stood high in his class and was a member of the editorial board of the *Harvard Law Review* during both his second and third years, Volumes 23 and 24.

Although I knew that he was a Columbia Law School professor, my first contact with Professor Cheatham came during the year 1928-29, when I served as an assistant to Professor Austin W. Scott in the preparation of the early drafts of the *Restatement of Trusts*. Elliott Cheatham was one of the Advisors for this task. There were other Advisors who were good too, but I have very vivid recollections of the contributions made by two of them, Elliott Cheatham and Ralph J. Baker.

Cheatham quickly showed that he had a fine and comprehensive mind. In many ways, his contributions complemented those which were made by Mr. Baker, who was then a practicing lawyer in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Baker's forte was infinite detail. Cheatham was not unaware of detail, but he helped to organize material, and he had the gift of writing. After others had discussed a problem at some length, and with a contrariety of opinion, Cheatham would quietly say: "Can it be worked out this way?" And it would quickly be seen that he had resolved many of the difficulties.

Although the work on the *Restatement of Trusts* was basically that of Professor Scott, there are many touches in it which went back to suggestions made by Elliott Cheatham. The two had great admiration for each other and worked well together.

Some years later, after I had joined the faculty of the Harvard Law School, Elliott Cheatham asked me to join with him and Herbert Goodrich and Noel T. Dowling in a new edition of their casebook on the conflict of laws. This was, of course, a remarkable opportunity for a young teacher, and the contact with these great scholars contributed much to my education. More than 30 years have passed since my entering into that collaboration, and Elliott Cheatham is still the leader of the team. His contributions in the whole field of conflict of laws have been extraordinary and need not be recounted here.

In addition, Elliott Cheatham made great contributions to the field of the legal profession, at a time when almost no one else in the academic world was doing much to organize materials about the legal

profession. His work here was original and stimulating, and it did much to keep interest in these problems alive during a period when most legal scholarship was being devoted to various topics of substantive law. Through his writings and his teaching, Elliott Cheatham has made an almost unique contribution to the standards of the legal profession.

After a full career on the faculty of the Columbia Law School, Professor Cheatham has had a new career as a member of the faculty of the Vanderbilt University Law School. During this period, his writing has never ceased, and it is always lively and original.

Elliott Cheatham has been one of the great legal scholars of our time. He has also been one of the great persons in law teaching. He has been a great inspiration not only to his students, but also to the law teachers who have tried to follow in his footsteps. He has always been a quiet, gentle man, with remarkable capacity to stimulate and encourage others.

ERWIN N. GRISWOLD*

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