IN MEMORIAM
ROBERT W. HAMILTON

Robert W. Hamilton served The University of Texas at Austin admirably, not only in the usual areas of scholarship and teaching, but in other capacities as well.

Professor Hamilton was a revered teacher of contracts and business associations to generations of students at the UT Law School from 1964 to 2004, winning the annual teaching award twice. His casebooks in those subjects were used in scores of law schools throughout the country. He brought luster to the University when he chaired hearings on nuclear waste management at Hanford, Washington, and Carlsbad, New Mexico, and when he served on safety panels for new drugs for the Food and Drug Administration. He was Research Director of the Administrative Conference of the United States, which recommends reforms in federal agency procedures. His position as the Reporter for the Revised Model Business Corporation Act reflected his importance as a corporate scholar.

Professor Hamilton served the University indirectly as Chairman of the Board of the University Co-op for twelve years. For most of that time the Co-op was the principal source of textbooks and supplies for the entire campus, and its operations were critical to the success of the University’s mission. He led the Co-op through several periods of rapid growth and transformation. After his retirement, the Co-op honored him by creating the Robert W. Hamilton Book Awards for outstanding new books by UT authors. Professor Hamilton was active in civic affairs, serving as a West Lake Hills City Councilman and as Chairman of its Zoning and Planning Commission.
Professor Hamilton had a sharp intellect and precise memory, which he employed in the intellectual debates he so enjoyed. He was quick to detect errors but he took time with his students to explain. Toward the end of his life, with both intellect and memory somewhat diminished, he revealed more of the gentler and warmer side of his personality, most notably in his loving relationship with his wife of sixty-four years, Dagmar.

At Swarthmore College, he majored in Economics and Mathematics and was on the varsity swim team. At the University of Chicago Law School, he was Managing Editor of The Chicago Law Review and then clerked on the U.S. Supreme Court for Justice Tom Clark. He came to the University of Texas at Austin after eight years in private law practice.

He met Dagmar at Swarthmore, they married in 1953, and she then joined Bob at the University of Chicago Law School. In her own distinguished career, she assisted U.S. Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas in writing his books and worked for the Justice Department Civil Rights Division and for the U.S. House of Representatives on the Nixon impeachment inquiry. She taught for many years at the LBJ School of Public Affairs and the UT Law School. She survives, as do children Eric Hamilton, Randy Hamilton, and Meredith Hamilton; brother Douglas Hamilton; and sisters Leslie Hamilton, Alice Glasser Inglis, and Linda Glasser Zises.
Gregory L. Fenves, President
The University of Texas at Austin

Alan W. Friedman, Secretary
The General Faculty

This memorial resolution was prepared by a special committee consisting of Professors Emeritus David Anderson (Chair) and Jack Getman, and Professor Jay Westbrook.