In Memoriam: Kate Wallach

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KATE WALLACH

1905-1979
IN MEMORIAM

For those of us who have known Professor Kate Wallach over the quarter of a century since she joined the ranks of our Law Faculty any account of her career or life events would be wholly unnecessary. But many readers of the Review may have made contact with Ms. Wallach only incidental to their use of the University law library, and others may have had no occasion whatever to make her acquaintance. For you who knew her less intimately than her many friends in the University a spare outline of her life and career may be appropriate.

Professor Wallach was a German—born at Krefeld—and she earned her first law doctorate at the University of Cologne in 1931. Shortly thereafter, Hitler came to power, and the developing career of Kate Wallach, like that of many other young Germans, was brought to a tragic halt in her own homeland. As a consequence, she and her brother, who is now a retired accountant, came to this country in 1935. Here Professor Wallach, equipped with only a spare knowledge of English, nevertheless graduated near the top of her law class at the University of Wisconsin and then went on to earn a bachelor's degree in library science at the University of Michigan. With this added equipment she became a member of the law library staff at the University of North Carolina. There she remained until 1949 when she was lured to Louisiana State University and became our law librarian and, later, Professor of Law.

Through this appointment our university and state have been well served. Louisiana judges, lawyers, and teachers have made frequent use of Professor Wallach's textbook, Research in Louisiana Law. It is a comprehensive bibliography of all the legal materials that relate to our own jurisdiction. The volume was first released as a publication of Louisiana State University Studies. It has since been supplemented.

We gratefully acknowledge that Kate Wallach's elevation to the presidency of the Association of American Law Libraries served to enhance substantially the reputation of the LSU Law Center. Similarly, she has been accorded statewide recognition through her appointment as president of the Louisiana Library Association.

Professor Wallach brought to her office of librarian a comprehensive understanding of two distinct systems of law, an unusually broad cultural background and a thorough discipline in
library science. Especially notable has been her ability to assemble with discrimination a wide range of legal materials which have served abundantly to enrich and to distinguish our library. These and many other endowments she has dedicated to our academic community with vigor and with unstinted devotion. The respect she has enjoyed as a professional is abundantly deserved.

For many of us Professor Wallach has been an intimate and loyal friend. With quiet and impressive dignity she has shared with us her reverence for music, literature, and all the other true riches of life. We as law teachers and members of the Baton Rouge Bar are much the poorer by reason of the passing of our friend and colleague, Kate Wallach.

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