

FOWLER V. HARPER

EUGENE V. ROSTOW

Fowler Harper was a man whom it rejoiced our hearts to know. He came to us from the Middle Border, at the peak of his career, after service with the government and with a number of other law schools. But he needed no conversion. He had already imbibed the spirit of this place, and soon became one of the liveliest of its priests and exemplars. He was acutely sensitive to injustice, and his boiling point was low. He was always ready to mount his charger, and to charge. He loved a good fight, but he loved his enemies, too, for he was without malice.

Fowler Harper was held in deep affection by his colleagues, his students and his co-workers in the many causes to which he devoted so much idealism and zeal. The feeling of warmth he inspired is the more remarkable because he was a crusader by temperament, always engaged in highly controversial movements of reform. But everyone recognized his generosity of spirit and the purity of his motives. His cuts and thrusts left no wounds.

Mr. Harper's scholarship and teaching made him one of the leading figures of his academic generation. The Treatise on Torts he wrote with his friend Fleming James, Jr. is his masterpiece. But his many other books and articles are read with respect, and one of his most interesting studies — a book on the late Justice Wiley Rutledge of the Supreme Court — is in press, and will appear soon.

Fowler Harper's death ends a long career of public service. He met the test of his final illness with serenity. A host felt him truly to be a friend.