Other than your immediate family members, there are only a few people in one’s life that really matter and that you are immensely grateful to know. Barbara Green is such a person. I first met her as a law student, and we have continued our friendship for approximately twenty years.

My first encounter with Professor Green was in the Fall of 1982, as I was enrolled in her estate and gift tax course. From the beginning of the class to the end, she always challenged her students and made all of us stretch to understand the material. However, my fondest memory of Professor Green during my time as a law student is when I decided to audit her corporate tax class rather than take the class for a grade. She informed me that I had her permission to audit the class; however, I needed to prepare everyday. She insisted that she would help me in this endeavor. True to her conviction, she made sure I knew the materials; as I was called on everyday to participate during the day’s discussion. It was Professor Green’s intention to take a personal interest in making me work everyday to learn the course subject matter.

Personally, I have found Barbara Green to be passionate and engaging. She has always been able to balance her professional career of teaching and research with her family life. From the first time I met her, Barbara’s children were and are the pride of her life. Over the years, I have been blessed through my friendship with Barbara to be kept up to date with the events in their lives and to share in Barbara’s joy as her children have grown to become adults.

This balance between career and family continues in her marriage. Barbara met and married a fellow colleague, Patrick Green, and they are both sharing a wonderful life together. Patrick and Barbara are truly best friends. We should all be so lucky as to have such a caring relationship in our lives.

Barbara’s passions also reached into the classroom. She always interjected other avenues of thought into her lectures. Literature, social science, and politics were prevalent and relevant to the day’s discussion. She was accessible to the students; sitting with us in the
student cafeteria discussing the day's lecture, current events, or issues that affected us as students and human beings. This was just another indication of her caring and interest.

Barbara is certainly an inspiration. Every year, I give a number of speeches and seminars on tax planning and financial planning. I have based these seminars and speeches on Barbara Green's teaching style by incorporating the every day into the subject matter.

Barbara Green is a role model to all of us. She has taught us balance and passion. Her love of teaching, knowledge, and family are testament to a continued and fulfilled life. She is a person that matters, and we are lucky and blessed to be a part of her life and that she has touched our lives. I am better for knowing her and am honored to call her a friend and a colleague.