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Oscar A. Provost

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OSCAR A. PROVOST

1908-1956

The School of Law of Montana State University, the legal profession, and the friends, colleagues and family of Professor Oscar A. Provost suffered an irretrievable loss on November 23, 1956, with his unexpected death. Professor Provost died of a heart attack at home during the Thanksgiving recess after a day that did not vary materially from his usual routine—class preparation, conferences with individual students, and informal discussions with other faculty members.

A native Montanan, he was born in Anaconda September 14, 1908. He received an A. B. degree from Carroll College and an LL.B. degree from Georgetown University. Prior to joining the law faculty in 1955, he had served successively as Assistant Attorney General for the State of Montana, Chief of the Appellate Sections of the Public Lands and Criminal Divisions of the United States Department of Justice, Chief of the Trade Regulation Section of the Legal Department of the DuPont Corporation, and Manager of the Legal Division of the DuPont Corporation. He is survived by his widow, two sons and two daughters.

In his short tenure as a member of the Montana State University law faculty, Professor Provost made several lasting contributions. He established the outlines of a revised legal drafting and legal writing program in the first and second years of the curriculum; he supervised the new Moot Court Program resulting in a northwest regional victory for the Montana State University team on its first appearance in the competition; he exemplified to the student body those qualities of integrity, industry, and selflessness that are characteristic of outstanding members of the legal profession. He will be missed but his memory will be cherished and his example emulated by those who were privileged to work and to be associated with him.