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AN ODE IN MEMORY OF DEAR LAURA

John Simon[†]

Because Professor Harvey Dale and I shared several activities with our wonderful colleague, Laura Chisolm—writing a nonprofit institutions book chapter,¹ participation in the Nonprofit Forum (“NP Forum”) and the National Center on Philanthropy and the Law (“NCPL”), as well as involvement with the Mandel Center for Nonprofit Organizations (“Mandel”)—my own prose covering these interactions would track Harvey’s account to a point suggestive of plagiarism. Accordingly, I am at a point where words fail, as the saying goes, but they fail a little less, perhaps, if I turn from prose to poetry (or at least some brief doggerel) to cover some of the Dale-Simon common ground—and to convey my appreciation, bordering on worship, of Laura: wonderful scholar, colleague and friend. Now the little ode:

Laura’s life was one great story,
Every chapter rates applause.
Lawyer, teacher, scholar, mother—
Did it all without a pause.

Everywhere that Laura walked she
Offered wit and wisdom too.
To Mandel she gave sound counsel,
As she did at NYU

All of NCPL’s sessions
Were enriched by Laura’s work—

[†] Augustus E. Lines Professor Emeritus of Law and Professorial Lecturer in Law, Yale Law School.

¹ John Simon, Harvey Dale & Laura Chisholm, *The Federal Tax Treatment of Charitable Organizations*, in *THE NONPROFIT SECTOR: A RESEARCH HANDBOOK* 267–306 (Walter W. Powell & Richard Steinberg eds., 2d ed. 2006).

As were more than twenty years of
NP Forums in New York.

Now we turn to Laura's gifts to
Her co-authors: Harvey, John.
Both her genius and her grace made
Her a partner paragon.

Endless labor on our chapter,
But it was a happy climb
Thanks to so much care and spirit
Laura gave us all the time!

Tears for Laura? To be sure. Though
Drying them will take a while,
Even now we're finding out that
Thoughts of Laura bring a smile!