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**RIGHT-TO-DIE ISSUES SPOTLIGHTED
BY UD ALUMNUS AWARD WINNER**

DAYTON, Ohio — When Karen Quinlan's family decided to petition to have her respirator turned off so that she might die rather than exist in a vegetative state, they turned to attorney Paul W. Armstrong to argue their case.

It turned out to be one of the most famous bioethics cases in history.

The University of Dayton graduate will address "Medical Decision-Making at the End of Life" at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 16, in the Mathias H. Heck Courtroom in Keller Hall on campus. Admission is free and open to the public.

A resident of New Jersey, Armstrong will be in Dayton to accept an alumni award during Homecoming weekend.

As a result of his growing expertise on patients' rights, Armstrong also served as counsel to the family of Nancy Ellen Jobes before the Superior and Supreme Courts of New Jersey in 1986 and 1987 and to the Hospital Association before the U.S. Supreme Court in the case of Nancy Beth Cruzan. His advocacy of patients' rights, particularly concerning right-to-die issues, brought him global attention and a new appreciation for his UD education, he says.

"In the beginning of the Karen Quinlan case, I had no idea that the teachings of the Catholic faith would play such a major role," says Armstrong, who received a bachelor's degree in history in 1967 and a master's in history in 1969. "The background I had while studying history at UD was a blessing because it taught all of us to see ourselves while we were in this landmark case."

A frequent guest on ABC's *Nightline*, Armstrong has argued against physician-assisted suicide before the U.S. Supreme Court and is now involved in the fight to keep tobacco products out of the hands of children.

Armstrong will receive the University's National Alumni Association's 1997 Distinguished Alumnus Award on Friday, Oct. 17, in Kennedy Union as part of Homecoming festivities at UD. Five alumni will receive Special Achievement Awards, one will receive a Special Service Award and two will receive Christian Service Awards.

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For media interviews, call **Paul Armstrong** at (908) 722-7653. For information on UD alumni awards, call **Regis Lekan**, director of alumni relations, at (937) 229-3299.