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A Tribute to Grace "Betty" W. Taylor

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Pamela D. Williams*

To Betty Taylor,

When I was hired, almost thirty years ago, I never dreamed that we would both still be here after all these years. But, "dream" is a good word to describe my experience here with Betty Taylor's leadership. In many ways it is hard to imagine that this much time has passed, for both of us this has been our sole professional position. Years fly and the concept of time passage gets fuzzy, but the changes and innovations that have been instituted put the years into perspective.

I know there were improvements made before I arrived in the early 1970s, but since then the collection was reclassified into LC and the books were reshuffled into a somewhat call number order - the first time of many subsequent attempts to get a true call number arrangement. Cataloging became computerized around the same time. A little later we acquired the Lexis and Westlaw dedicated terminals - one for each system. Sign-up sheets were posted for those who needed to do electronic legal research. Still later IBM PCs arrived and the revolution is still occurring. Acceleration of technological developments make last year's latest gadgets and techniques seem like they happened eons ago. Well, at least we have that to help mark the time we've been here! Work is not work, it's a joy and I know that the primary reason has been because my boss has been Betty Taylor.

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