

# A Salute to Tom O'Connor



This is Tom O'Connor: newsman's newsman.

This is the man whose name, for thousands, is inextricably linked with the Church and Catholic journalism.

Tom "thought it would be for just a year" when he got into the Catholic newspaper trade back in 1924.

That "year" ended more than two generations, four bishops and seven grandchildren later, when, in 1968, Tom polished up his last piece of copy for the Courier-Journal and sent it in to the typesetter.

Today, Tom and his wife Helen enjoy his days of retirement in the company of their children and grandchildren, friends and many club associates, both in the parlor of their Magee Avenue Home and around the city whose attitudes towards Catholicism and journalism he helped build.

In Tom's files are testimonials to him from those years: letters signed by the famous and near famous, bishops and laymen.

But it seems to this writer that the real tributes come weekly when callers to the Courier-Journal newsroom still request "Say hello to Tom O'Connor for me."

Tom graduated from the old Cathedral High School in 1912. He attended Notre Dame University for a year, worked for a while on the Buffalo,



Tom and Helen and their children: Jack, Tom, Bob, Dick, Leo, Jim and Helen

Joseph P. "Stubby" Flynn, Knute Rockne and Tom



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