

## Wishing Shalala well

Long before she arrived in Miami, I had the good fortune to know Donna Shalala as a colleague and friend. But I'm also an admirer. She embodies leadership as few can. She has epitomized dignity, courage and provided that intangible quality of energy that draws commitment and belief in what is possible. She wanted the University of Miami to shine as never before and she led the way in making it a reality.

President Shalala's influence has transcended this great university. From day one, she embraced our community, contributing her time and creative input to the full range of issues that affect our residents. She showed us that great leadership is borne by vision and made real through caring, persistence and unselfishness.

The good news is that she will continue to be a part of the way forward in this ever-growing community. Her name stands for leadership and Donna Shalala, the person, will remain a great friend to us in the days ahead. I couldn't be more grateful for her friendship and wish her the very best.

Eduardo J. Padrón, president,

Miami Dade College, Miami

© 2014 Miami Herald Media Company. All Rights Reserved. http://www.miamiherald.com