President Jean Graven was born in Sion (Switzerland) on April 27th, 1899.

He studied Law in Geneva, and later, in Bern, where he obtained his Doctoral Degree in 1927. He then worked as a judge at the Geneva Court of Cassation.

He was appointed as Law Professor at Geneva; he was Dean (1946-1969) and Rector (1963-1965).

Among his numerous contacts with foreign universities, the Doctor Honoris Causa degrees granted by the Universities of Rennes, Lyon, Lieja and Freiburg im Breisgau must be pointed out.

He was elected as member of the International Academy of Comparative Law.

Appointed by the United Nations to ensure the prosecution and judgment of war criminals, he represented Switzerland during the Nuremberg Trials.

From 1953 to 1955, he made numerous stays in Ethiopia in order to prepare the Criminal Code and the civil and criminal procedure legislation of that State.

He was elected as President of the IAPL in 1963, and he chaired the Association until the Congress of Rome of 1969.

President Jean Graven was not only an eminent jurist, but also the author of numerous works, novels, poems, musical scripts, to the glory of his home province, the country of Valais.

President Jean Graven died on December, 1987.

References: