Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr. (1841–1935) Biographies Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., byname The Great Dissenter, (born March 8, 1841, Boston—died March 6, 1935, Washington, D.C.), justice of the United States Supreme Court, holds a prominent place in American legal history. His father, Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr., was a poet, physician, and author, known for his wit and wisdom. Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., was an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court from 1902 to 1932. He is remembered for his contributions to the advancement of law, science, and literature. His career in law began when he graduated from Harvard Law School in 1866. Holmes was appointed to the Supreme Court in 1902 by President Theodore Roosevelt. He retired in 1932 and became a professor at Columbia University. Holmes is known for his emphasis on the importance of individual rights and his influence on the development of constitutional law in the United States. His work continues to be studied and celebrated for its impact on American law and its influence on future generations of legal scholars.