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## **\$400,000 bequest from Mary Frances King establishes cancer research fund at UT Southwestern**

DALLAS – May 10, 2011 – A \$400,000 bequest to Southwestern Medical Foundation from Mary Frances King will foster cancer research at UT Southwestern Medical Center.

Mrs. King, who died in 2008, became committed to helping find a cure for cancer after she lost her husband to lung cancer in 1992. Her gift will create the Mary Frances King Fund for Cancer Research.

“Frances was a very quiet, private person who had a strong desire to support those causes that meant something to her personally,” said her nephew, Jimmy Rodgers of Moyock, N.C. “She never put on ‘airs’ and lived a frugal, simple life. After her husband died, she became very interested in helping others suffering from the disease. Her family is very inspired by her generosity, and we hope much good will come from her gifts.”

Mrs. King was born in 1927 and grew up in Lefors, Texas. After high school she graduated from an Oklahoma City business school before working at a large insurance firm in Oklahoma and later, Dallas. She met and married William King, a systems analyst with Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Co., in 1971.

“She also had a great love of animals, and took enormous pride in her yard and home,” said Mr. Rodgers. “She was a very meticulous person in everything that she did.”

Dr. Daniel K. Podolsky, president of UT Southwestern, said, “Mrs. King’s generosity will be felt throughout our medical center community for many years. Gifts such as this one open the door to new possibilities in cancer research and help cement our commitment to bettering health care in Texas and around the world.”

Mrs. King, who had no children, supported several charities through her estate. In addition to her bequest to Southwestern Medical Foundation, she left gifts totaling more than \$2 million to the American Red Cross, the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children, American Cancer Society, and the Salvation Army.

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Dr. Kern Wildenthal, president of Southwestern Medical Foundation, said: “Mary Frances King obviously was a caring, intelligent woman committed to improving the condition of all humankind. This gift not only provides an effective springboard for advances in cancer research; it also is a wonderful tribute to her husband, William.”

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