## JT SOUTHWESTERN NEWS MEDICAL CENTER



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## John and Sherry Roan give \$100,000 to honor parents, support family medicine programs at UT Southwestern

DALLAS - Oct. 30, 2006 - John A. Roan and his wife, Sherry, have given \$100,000 to establish a professorship in family medicine at UT Southwestern Medical Center in honor of Mr. Roan's parents.

The gift, which will create the Dr. John L. and Louise Roan Professorship in Family Medicine, recognizes Dr. Roan's lifelong passion for the practice of medicine. He was a family doctor for 50 years in Weatherford, where he built his practice by making house calls and developing warm and lasting friendships with his patients.

"From the time that I was a very young child, I observed my father's devotion to his work," said Mr. Roan, UT Southwestern's executive vice president for business affairs. "I was with him when he made house calls, and I watched the wonderful relationships he formed with the families that he treated. He delivered babies, cared for their parents and grandparents, and even counseled them when they were having problems. He was a small-town doctor, and he felt a great responsibility to the people of his community.

"Sherry and I thought this would be an especially appropriate way to honor him and my late mother, who was always supportive of his career. We also wanted to support the family medicine program at UT Southwestern, which is something our family believes in."

One of 10 children, Dr. Roan grew up on a farm in East Texas. Like all his siblings, he earned an undergraduate degree from East Texas State Teacher's College, now Texas A&M University-Commerce. He went on to earn a medical degree from UT Medical Branch in Galveston in 1944. Following an internship at St. Paul Hospital in Dallas, now part of UT Southwestern Medical Center, he opened a private practice in 1946. He maintained a general practice in Weatherford from 1952 until his retirement in 2002.

Louise Roan, who died in 1970, was a homemaker who raised four children while helping her husband in his practice.

"This endowment is an inspirational way of commemorating Dr. and Mrs. Roan's lives and service to medicine and society," said Dr. Kern Wildenthal, president of UT Southwestern. "It is

especially poignant that John and Sherry Roan – who know our institution so intimately – have chosen to entrust our institution with such a significant gift. We are immensely grateful to them for this heartfelt gift."

Mr. Roan earned his undergraduate degree and Master of Business Administration from UT Austin. After graduation, he held a variety of positions at Texas Commerce Bank in Houston and BankOne Austin, where he became executive vice president and senior loan officer. He served as the assistant vice chancellor for finance at the UT System for eight years before joining UT Southwestern in 1997.

A Fort Worth native, Mrs. Roan attended the University of North Texas. She is a former flight attendant for American Airlines and worked as an administrator in UT Austin's School of Architecture and College of Engineering from 1988 to 1998. She and Mr. Roan married in 1967 and have three daughters and two grandchildren.

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## **About UT Southwestern Medical Center**

UT Southwestern Medical Center, one of the premier medical centers in the nation, integrates pioneering biomedical research with exceptional clinical care and education. Its more than 1,400 full-time faculty members – including four active Nobel prize winners, more than any other medical school in the world – are responsible for groundbreaking medical advances and are committed to translating science-driven research quickly to new clinical treatments. UT Southwestern physicians provide medical care in 40 specialties to nearly 89,000 hospitalized patients and oversee 2.1 million outpatient visits a year.

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