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## **\$3.5 million bequest from Dorothy Middleton aids paralysis research at UT Southwestern**

DALLAS – Oct. 23, 2007 – Texas philanthropist Dorothy Henderson Middleton has bequeathed \$3.5 million to support UT Southwestern Medical Center research of paralysis and paralytic diseases.

Mrs. Middleton, whose gift was made to Southwestern Medical Foundation, died in February.

“UT Southwestern's success in maintaining the excellence of our programs depends to a significant degree upon the commitment and generosity of dedicated philanthropists like Dorothy Middleton,” said Dr. Kern Wildenthal, president of the medical center. “We are truly grateful for this exceptional bequest and for the trust she had in our institution.”

Born in 1908 in Durango, Colo., Mrs. Middleton later relocated to Houston with her parents. She attended boarding school at Gulf Park School in Mississippi and later was a student at the University of Kansas, where she was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta.

She graduated from Wellesley College in 1930 and married Paul Middleton in 1936. The couple moved to Dallas, where Mr. Middleton founded Middleton Outdoor Signs, the largest billboard company in North Texas. The company was sold to Cullum Companies before his death in 1975.

Mrs. Middleton was an active member of Highland Park Presbyterian Church, the Dallas Country Club, and numerous cultural and civic organizations. She was an enthusiastic benefactor of a wide variety of charities, including Children's Medical Center Dallas and the Texas Presbyterian Foundation.

W. Plack Carr Jr., president of Southwestern Medical Foundation, said, “Dorothy Middleton was committed to bettering her community in countless ways, and this wonderful gift is a prime example of her desire to help others. We're very grateful for her substantial generosity and are excited about the doors this gift will open in the field of paralysis research.”

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