## SOJHWESTERN NEWS

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## OVERCASH FAMILY DONATES \$2 MILLION TO SUPPORT COLON- AND BREAST-CANCER RESEARCH AT UT SOUTHWESTERN

DALLAS – January 31, 2000 – The family of late businessman and philanthropist Reece A. Overcash Jr. has given \$2 million to establish two centers for cancer research at UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas.

The gift, made to Southwestern Medical Foundation, will fund the Reece A. Overcash Jr. Center for Research on Colon Cancer, in Honor of Dr. Eugene P. Frenkel; and the Christa A. and Reece A. Overcash Jr. Family Center for Breast Care Research, in Honor of Dr. George Peters.

Reece Overcash, former chairman and chief executive officer of Associates Corp. of North America, died in 1995 of colon cancer. His wife, Christa, has successfully battled breast cancer. She said her family wanted to support research into two diseases that have impacted them so dramatically, while "giving back" to UT Southwestern, where she and her husband were treated.

"Mr. Overcash was a wonderful man, who recognized the importance of furthering research into a disease that impacts so many Americans," said Frenkel, professor of internal medicine. "We know that his memory will live on through this far-reaching endowment and are proud to be included in his family's continuing dedication to advancing health care." Frenkel treated Mr. Overcash during his illness and also has treated Mrs. Overcash.

"Mrs. Overcash has been a joy to know and a privilege to treat," said Peters, who directs the Southwestern Center for Breast Care and began treating Overcash a decade ago when she was diagnosed with breast cancer. "I am thrilled with her decision to support our clinical and research efforts so generously and am excited about the wonderful opportunities the Overcash family's gift will provide to advance our ability to treat breast cancer."

Dr. Kern Wildenthal, president of UT Southwestern, said, "Mr. Overcash was admired as an outstanding businessman, leader, and family man. Through the Overcash family's wonderful (MORE)

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gift, his commitment to give back to his community will be continued."

In 1993, when Reece Overcash was CEO of the Associates, the largest financial institution headquartered in Texas, the company established a research fund at UT Southwestern. After his death, the fund was enlarged and specifically directed toward cancer investigations by his successors and renamed as The Associates Corporation Laboratory for Cancer Research in Memory of Reece A. Overcash Jr.

In 1999 the company established the Associates First Capital Corporation Chair in Pediatric Critical Care at UT Southwestern to support clinical care and research in critical pediatric disease and trauma.

Overcash joined The Associates as president and chief operating officer in 1975. He was named CEO in 1978 and became chairman of the board in 1979, a position he held until his death.

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