

SOUTHWESTERN NEWS

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Texas couple creates medical scholarship fund at UT Southwestern with \$228,000 in bequests

DALLAS – May 4, 2004 – Two separate bequests from a Texas couple have established a \$228,000 medical scholarship fund for students at UT Southwestern Medical School. Gifts from the estates of Leone Hopper, who died in 2002, and Charles Orrin Hopper, who died in 1970, will create the Leone V. Hopper Medical Scholarship.

“Both Leone and Orrin spent a great deal of time volunteering and giving to other people, and both had a lot of respect for the medical profession. I know Leone, especially, gave a lot of thought to the legacy she wanted to leave,” said Mrs. Hopper’s cousin, Marge Hunt of St. Paul, Kan.

A \$162,000 gift from the Charles O. Hopper Insurance Trust B was combined with a \$66,000 bequest from Mrs. Hopper’s estate to create the scholarship.

Charles Orrin Hopper, a petroleum engineer from Brownfield, Texas, married Leone Ridgely, a Mound Valley, Kansas, native, in 1952. The couple met while working at Stanolind Oil and Gas Co. in Tulsa, Okla. Mr. and Mrs. Hopper’s careers with Stanolind would eventually lead them to stints in Canada, Iran, North Africa and the West Indies.

The couple returned to the United States in 1967 when Mr. Hopper fell ill, and they remained in Lafayette, La., until his death three years later. Mrs. Hopper moved to Fort Worth in 1970, where she was an active member of the Ridglea United Methodist Church, the Fort Worth Newcomers Club, the American Association of Retired Persons and numerous other social clubs. Gifts from the couple’s estates also have established the Orrin Hopper Engineering Scholarship at UT Austin.

“Mr. and Mrs. Hopper’s foresight and generosity are tremendously appreciated,” said Dr. Kern Wildenthal, president of UT Southwestern. “Their gift will provide wonderful opportunities for deserving students for whom the cost of a medical education would be – without the help of a scholarship – a true hardship.”

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