

# SOUTHWESTERN NEWS

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## **GIFT CREATES PROFESSORSHIPS IN HONOR OF TWO DALLAS DOCTORS**

DALLAS – Feb. 18, 2004 – An anonymous donor has given \$200,000 to establish professorships in memory of Dallas physicians Dr. Stanley Gilbert and Dr. José Garcia for programs at UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas.

The endowment, given through Southwestern Medical Foundation, will fund a professorship in family medicine in honor of Dr. Gilbert and a professorship in internal medicine in honor of Dr. Garcia. Dr. Gilbert was a former president of the medical staff at St. Paul University Hospital and founder of the first family practice residency program in Dallas, and Dr. Garcia was a former chief of clinical medicine at Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas.

“This wonderful gift honors two physicians who made outstanding contributions to medicine in Dallas, and supports two areas of clinical practice integral to the continuing health of our community,” said Dr. Kern Wildenthal, president of UT Southwestern. “The generosity of a farsighted philanthropist will enhance our clinical services significantly and provide a springboard for further advancements and better training programs in both internal medicine and family medicine.”

The Stanley Gilbert, M.D., Professorship in Family Medicine honors a longtime family physician who practiced what he termed “high-touch, low-tech” medicine. The son of working-class parents who ran a West Texas bakery, Dr. Gilbert earned a medical degree from the UT Medical Branch in Galveston in 1948 and, after serving two years as a surgeon in the Air Force, became the only physician performing surgery at a 22-bed hospital in Levelland.

In 1953 Dr. Gilbert relocated his family to Dallas, where he became head of the Launey Medical and Surgical Clinic and built a reputation as an expert in industrial medicine and toxicology, as well as in family medicine. In 1976, while still at the clinic, Dr. Gilbert became president of the medical staff of St. Paul, where he had helped establish Dallas’ first family practice residency program. He retired in 1990 and died in 2000.

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“This is a lovely gift, and our family is so honored to be a part of it, “ said his widow, Betty Gilbert. Speaking on behalf of their four children, she said, “We know how much this would have meant to him, and we are proud that his name will be linked to UT Southwestern in this way.”

The José Garcia, M.D., Professorship in Internal Medicine honors a prominent Dallas physician renowned for his commitment to medical education. Born in Cuba, Dr. Garcia earned his medical degree at the University of Havana Medical School in 1951. After completing an internship and residency in Cuba and a fellowship in Germany, Dr. Garcia immigrated to the United States, settling in Dallas in 1963.

He worked at the Dallas VA Medical Center until 1965 when, after a year of specialty training at St. Paul, he joined the staff at Presbyterian Hospital. In 1972 Dr. Garcia received a special appreciation plaque from the residents and interns at St. Paul, which honored him for his commitment to teaching and his willingness to volunteer his time and efforts – even as a private physician – to clinicians in training. He died in 1992 at the age of 66. A year after his death, SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals established the Jose Garcia – SmithKline Beecham Outstanding Resident Award at Presbyterian, which is given each year to an exceptional third-year resident in internal medicine.

“I am moved and very grateful for this unexpected honor,” said his widow, Dr. Josefina Garcia. “Our daughter, Sylvia, and I are thrilled that someone so generous has chosen to remember José in this way, and we know he would be very proud that this gift is going to support programs at UT Southwestern.”

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