

SOUTHWESTERN NEWS

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\$500,000 GIFT TO SUPPORT LUNG CANCER RESEARCH AT UT SOUTHWESTERN

DALLAS — January 10, 1993 — Civic leader Barbara Thomas Lemmon has pledged \$500,000 to establish the Max L. Thomas Distinguished Chair in Molecular Pulmonary Oncology in support of lung cancer research at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas.

This endowed gift and the matching funds it generates will contribute \$1 million to UT Southwestern's Fund for Molecular Research.

"This is the first contribution that I have made toward cancer research in Dallas," said Mrs. Lemmon. "I simply decided that I wanted to support the efforts being made here in Dallas at our medical school. UT Southwestern has come a long way, and I want to help support its future."

Mrs. Lemmon presented the gift in honor of her first husband, Texas independent oil operator Max Thomas, who had lung cancer when he died in 1982.

"He, like many, hoped to beat his cancer," said Mrs. Lemmon. "During his illness, he always remained quite determined and became very interested in cancer research and experimental treatments. He also talked to many of the nation's leading cancer researchers and clinicians, including Dr. [John] Minna."

Minna, who at that time headed the National Cancer Institute's Navy Medical Oncology Branch, now directs UT Southwestern's Harold C. Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center and holds the Lisa K. Simmons Distinguished Chair in Comprehensive Oncology.

"Mrs. Lemmon's great generosity and support are vitally important in assuring that our lung cancer research efforts are accelerated and enhanced," said Dr. Kern Wildenthal, UT Southwestern president. "We join her in her hope that research will ultimately lead to a total cure or prevention of lung cancer."

Mrs. Lemmon oversees Thomas Enterprises, which is still involved in oil drilling and cattle ranching in North Texas. Mrs. Lemmon, who has been active in the Dallas community for nearly 40 years, currently is a Dallas Museum of Art board member.

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