

# SOUTHWESTERN NEWS

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## **FORSYTHES ESTABLISH CHAIR FOR STROKE RESEARCH**

DALLAS -- February 25, 1999 -- Longtime Dallas residents, attorney Earl Forsythe and his wife, Janet, have pledged \$250,000 to establish a chair at UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas for stroke research and indicated their intention of doubling the sum in the future.

Southwestern Medical Foundation will match the Forsythe donations, which will ultimately create a \$1 million distinguished chair.

More than 30 years ago when he was a member of the Dallas County Hospital Board, Forsythe became aware of the important role UT Southwestern plays in the treatment of patients at Parkland Memorial Hospital and in the medical world.

This familiarity with UT Southwestern, along with personal health issues of recent years, have prompted Forsythe and his wife to establish the Earl A. Forsythe and Janet Kendall Forsythe Chair in the area of stroke research.

"Over the years I have become very impressed with what UT Southwestern and Southwestern Medical Foundation mean to Dallas and to the whole country," the 94-year-old Forsythe said recently. "UT Southwestern has become a striking force nationally; it's one of the biggest things going."

He also discovered firsthand how important top-notch medical knowledge and skill are when his wife was left partially paralyzed due to an aneurysm five years ago. And just three years later, he had a stroke.

"The generosity of the Forsythes will be of great help to the medical center in its plans to build one of the best centers in the country for research and treatment of stroke," said Dr. Kern Wildenthal, UT Southwestern president.

Forsythe, a Yale Law School graduate, said he first arrived in Texas in the spring of 1932. He considered San Antonio and Houston but was drawn to Dallas. It's here that the young man, known as "Early" and born on a farm in Maryland, found his niche and his wife.

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## **FORSYTHE GIFT # 2**

The couple has been actively involved in the community through the years. He has donated time and energy as a board member of the local chapter of the American Red Cross, the Salesmanship

Club, Parkland Memorial Hospital and The Episcopal School of Dallas. He is a recipient of the prestigious Justinian Award, given by the Dallas Bar Association for outstanding community service. Janet Forsythe served on the boards of the Dallas Museum of Fine Arts and the Dallas Council of Social Agencies (now called the Community Council of Greater Dallas) and was an active supporter of St. Philips Episcopal School and Community Center.

"I feel anyone who has been as lucky as I have in Dallas, which has been a great place to be, owes a debt," he said. "I needed to pay it back, and I'm happy to do it."

Though he retired 10 years ago, Forsythe still goes to the offices of Worsham, Forsythe & Wooldridge every morning for several hours to "keep up on business and Dallas." Caring about the city and its residents is not unusual, as evidenced by his gift, according to those who know him.

"Earl and Janet Forsythe have been cornerstones of this community for many years, and the gift of this chair is one more example of their deep concern for others," said W. Plack Carr Jr., president of Southwestern Medical Foundation.

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