

SOUTHWESTERN NEWS

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WACO COUPLE ENDOWS UT SOUTHWESTERN CHAIR

DALLAS — April 21, 1994 — Clifton Robinson trusts his friend Charles Seay's judgment so much that when Seay suggested he contribute to The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas' Fund for Molecular Research campaign, Robinson pledged \$250,000. The gift, with matching funds, will create the Clifton and Betsy Robinson Chair in Biomedical Research.

"I'm supporting my friend Charles Seay in the endeavor to raise money on behalf of UT Southwestern," Robinson said. "Charles thinks it is a worthy cause and is a strong advocate of UT Southwestern, so when he asked me to contribute, I did. I support him 100 percent."

Seay's suggestion that Robinson and his wife contribute to UT Southwestern was in line with the couple's own interest in health and medical research. A self-described "fitness nut," Robinson jogs 15 to 20 miles a week. He also has been involved with health insurance through his business and has contributed to various health and medical associations over the years.

"It's important to improve the health of the American community so health insurance premiums aren't so far out of sight," he said.

In 1993, Seay and his wife, Sarah, pledged \$10 million to UT Southwestern's research campaign, to build the Seay Biomedical Research Building on UT Southwestern's North Campus. They also gave \$1 million to endow chairs in pediatric medicine, pediatric infectious diseases and pediatric research at UT Southwestern. In 1991 their gifts established two chairs in child psychiatry.

Dr. Kern Wildenthal, UT Southwestern president, said the Robinson gift "symbolizes the importance of private philanthropy and also of friendship, cooperation and loyalty. For there to be a Robinson chair holder working side-by-side with Seay chair holders in the Seay building will be a great testimonial to the friendship of these two fine couples."

(More)

Robinson is chairman and chief executive officer of National Group Corp., an insurance holding company in Waco, Texas. He is a former director of the Texas Life Insurance Association, former vice chairman of the Texas Life and Health Guaranty Association and a member of the Waco Association of Independent Insurance Agents, the American Council of Life Insurance, the National Association of Life Cos. and the Association of Fire and Casualty Companies in Texas.

A 1963 graduate of Baylor University, Robinson has worked in the insurance business since college, continuing a family tradition that began with his father and uncle. It was through the insurance business that he became acquainted with Seay, a longtime business associate.

A Waco native, Robinson now works just five miles from the hospital where he was born. He is active in the Waco community through the Karem Temple of Waco and Scottish Rite of Waco, and he is a member of Central Christian Church in Waco. He is a supporter of Baylor University, which recently named the C. Clifton Robinson Tower, an eight-story building purchased by the university, in his honor. His wife, Betsy Sharp Robinson, also is a Baylor graduate.

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