

SOUTHWESTERN NEWS

Media Contact: Mindy Warren
(214) 648-3404
melindawarren@email.swmed.edu

S.T. HARRIS FAMILY FUNDS TWO CHAIRS

DALLAS – April 9, 1999 – S.T. "Buddy" Harris and his family have given UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas \$500,000 to establish new chairs in internal medicine and breast surgery.

The two chairs honor longtime UT Southwestern physicians who are admired by the Harris family. The S.T. Harris Family Chair in Breast Surgery, in Honor of Marilyn Leitch, M.D., and the S.T. Harris Family Chair in Internal Medicine, in Honor of Gary Reed, M.D., provide recognition for the excellent quality of medical care all receive at UT Southwestern, while also honoring physicians who have made a difference in the lives of Harris family members, S.T. Harris said.

The family's gift will be matched with funds from an anonymous donor, and each chair will be endowed with \$500,000.

Dr. Kern Wildenthal, UT Southwestern president, has known the Harris family for many years. "S.T. Harris sets exceptionally high standards for himself and for others. UT Southwestern is very proud that he and his family feel that our programs are worthy of their support," Wildenthal said. "Their generous gift will be of great benefit to our research and clinical programs in internal medicine and breast cancer surgery."

Inspired by personal losses to illness, the S.T. Harris family has chosen to direct funds in ways designed to help other patients and their families. In addition to the two new chairs, they previously established the Margaret D. Harris Professorship in Alzheimer's Research, which is held by Dr. Perrie Adams, associate dean for research and associate director of the Alzheimer's disease center at UT Southwestern.

The family has been especially impressed by the medical center's ability to combine compassionate personal care with cutting-edge medical research. "We feel privileged to have excellent doctors and such a fine medical center close to home," they said. "The medical center is such an asset to the community. We've wanted to do something for UT Southwestern

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for a long time, and we found the right time.”

Harris, a longtime executive at Texas Instruments, moved to Dallas in 1949 – the very year the medical school became part of the UT System. A retired lieutenant commander in the Navy, he has traveled extensively throughout the world and was inducted into the Legion of Honor by the French government. He is an electrical engineering graduate of the University of Tennessee at Knoxville.

Mrs. Harris, who spent 32 years as her husband’s executive assistant at Texas Instruments, was born in Kansas and has worked as a merchandiser, recruiter and fashion buyer.

Both widowed, the couple married two years ago.

Reed, chief of general internal medicine, has written extensively on emergency medicine and primary-care issues. He has served as chief of staff at Zale Lipshy University Hospital, medical director of emergency services at Parkland Memorial Hospital and medical director of the North Texas Poison Center.

A professor of surgical oncology, Leitch is a nationally recognized breast cancer and breast-screening expert. She is past president of the Texas division of the American Cancer Society and has served on the national board of directors since 1994. Leitch is the medical director of the Southwestern Center for Breast Care and a member of the medical center’s breast program advisory committee.

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