

The Seventies

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Dr. George and Ruth Bozalis established an endowment in 1976 to benefit allergy research.



Dr. George and Ruth Bozalis

George & Ruth Bozalis: Supporting Their Community

George Bozalis was a quiet, dignified and dedicated doctor. His wife, Ruth Russell Bozalis was an outgoing and gracious woman who loved people and never wanted to miss a function. “My daughter-in-law said it best when she described mother as ‘the ultimate party girl with not enough parties to go to’,” shared Dr. John Bozalis, the couple’s eldest of their three children. “Dad was very bright but very private, a real behind-the-scenes person.”

Married for 58 years, the couple believed in giving back to their community.

Born in 1910, George Bozalis earned undergraduate and medical degrees from the University of Oklahoma. Following post-graduate study in St. Louis, he served as the chief resident of the St. Louis Municipal Contagious Disease until he joined the Army Medical Corps in 1940. During World War II, Col. Bozalis served in the Third Army under Gen. George S. Patton and was awarded five battle stars and a Bronze Star Medal. He returned to Oklahoma City to practice medicine and in 1954 founded the Oklahoma Allergy Clinic.

Ruth Russell’s parents made the Oklahoma Land Run in 1889. Born in 1911 in McAlester, Ruth moved with her family to Oklahoma City in 1917 where she attended Classen High School. A graduate of the Oklahoma College for Women, she married George Bozalis in 1937. While George was a reserved individual, Ruth illustrated her interest in the community through involvement in numerous civic and arts organizations, never seeming to tire. “At age 95, she could cover more ground than people my age,” John Bozalis said of his mother. “She had just an amazing level of energy.”

Longtime friends of John and Eleanor Kirkpatrick, Dr. and Mrs. Bozalis established an endowment at the Oklahoma City Community Foundation in 1976 to benefit allergy research at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. George Bozalis died in 1995 but his work continues at the Oklahoma Allergy Clinic now under the direction of his son, John. Ruth Bozalis died in 2009, the day after her 98th birthday.