



OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION


35  
YEARS



# 35

STORIES

## IN RECOGNITION OF OUR 35TH ANNIVERSARY,



we are pleased to provide a collection of stories that illustrate the varied donors and funds that comprise the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. Throughout our history, we have been able to accommodate the charitable desires of thousands of people while at the same time helping the community. Each donor story is as unique as the people, organizations and businesses they represent. By sharing their stories we are sharing the story of the Oklahoma City Community Foundation.

We look forward to continuing to serve the charitable needs of individuals, families and organizations as well as the community for the next 35 years and beyond.



Nancy B. Anthony  
Executive Director

35 YEARS  
35 STORIES

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## JOHN & ELEANOR KIRKPATRICK

### *Leading by example*

John and Eleanor Kirkpatrick established the Kirkpatrick Foundation in 1955 but soon realized that Oklahoma City needed its own organization that could serve the charitable needs of a large number of citizens and nonprofit organizations. In 1969, after much research and discussion about the benefits of community foundations, the couple provided the initial leadership, contributions and administrative support for the founding of the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. The couple understood such an organization broadened a community's base of philanthropy and that this type of steady and permanent income for a variety of nonprofit agencies was key to the overall vitality of Oklahoma City. As Mr. Kirkpatrick once said, "It's important to be broad in our support. If you have a sore toe, the whole body suffers."

The Kirkpatrick family's support for the Oklahoma City Community Foundation has extended well beyond their initial gift and leadership. For a number of years the couple provided support through numerous match opportunities that allowed many nonprofit organizations to build their permanent endowment funds. And since 1989, the family has awarded grants through the Kirkpatrick Family Fund, the largest fund at the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. Mrs. Kirkpatrick passed away in 1998 but her influence on the community's philanthropic world is still felt. In his late 90s, Mr. Kirkpatrick remains interested in the activities of the Oklahoma City Community Foundation and the overall well being of Oklahoma City. The couple has passed on their deep conviction of civic responsibility to grandson Christian Keese, who today heads the Kirkpatrick Family Fund.



1969  
2004





### CHARLES GUYTON ANDERSON III

*"Love thy neighbor" shown through a unique gift*

Charles Guyton Anderson III had a dream for Putnam Heights, the Oklahoma City neighborhood where his family had lived for more than 50 years. He wanted to make it the premier neighborhood of the community. A Renaissance man with an educational pedigree to match, Guyton left the neighborhood as a young man to pursue a career in education. After receiving two degrees, studying as a Fulbright Scholar, mastering seven languages and teaching French and Latin for 35 years in the Washington D.C. area, the world traveler returned to Putnam Heights to live in his parents' home. Once settled in, Guyton

continued a longstanding family tradition of celebrating New Year's Day with a Black-Eyed Pea Party that drew all ages from the neighborhood. While his commitment to the neighborhood combined with a ready smile endeared him to many, it was his final gift to Putnam Heights, made upon his death in 1998, that underlined his true spirit. Guyton directed the proceeds from the sale of his beloved home to create a permanent endowment fund for the Putnam Heights Preservation Area. With this final gesture of good will, the generosity of a truly remarkable man will benefit his neighborhood for years to come.





FLORIDA M. KNIGHT

*A building and a desire to help children*

A working woman ahead of her time, the newly divorced Florida M. Knight took over sole management of the family business in 1924. In addition to being a businesswoman and a single mother, Mrs. Knight was also a noted child advocate who worked to improve the health and well being of disabled children. She supported several organizations through charitable gifts and even donated a stained glass window titled "Jesus Blessing the Little Children" to a downtown Oklahoma City church.

When she sold her company in 1928, Mrs. Knight maintained ownership of several commercial buildings. Wanting to ensure

that her support of disabled children would continue, she placed the building located at 314 Park Avenue in a trust with provisions that income from the building be used to help such children. In the 1970s, her family transferred the assets of the trust to the Oklahoma City Community Foundation to continue her charitable support. Even though Mrs. Knight died in 1964 and the building was torn down years ago, the Florida M. Knight Trust continues to help disabled children "find happiness in life in spite of their handicaps."

1969  
2004



## OKLAHOMA CITY DISASTER RELIEF FUND

*Helping put our community back together*

When tragedy struck deep in the heart of the nation on April 19, 1995, the world responded with overwhelming compassion. The bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in downtown Oklahoma City created a situation unlike any the community had to face to that point. Not only were 168 friends, family members and neighbors killed, nearly 3,000 were left behind to grieve and rebuild their lives. This was both a personal tragedy and one felt deeply around the world. As a result, contributions began pouring in immediately to nearly 40 charities and government offices throughout the community. The Oklahoma City Community Foundation Trustees established the Oklahoma City Disaster Relief Fund as a vehicle to manage and administer contributions

made directly or transferred by other organizations. Realizing that a tragedy of this magnitude would have long term effects, the fund was set up to provide ongoing support and assistance. Due to thoughtful and expert management, the fund continues to provide assistance to a large number of individuals and families as well as medical support and mental health counseling for those who were injured. In addition, the Survivors' Education Fund allows for children of victims to receive an education from an accredited college or university. The recovery of those impacted continues even today and through the Oklahoma City Disaster Relief Fund, we are able to help.

35 YEARS  
35 STORIES



BRONETA DAVIS EVANS

*A love for flying and helping others*

For Broneta Davis Evans, the sky was literally the limit. Born in 1907, Mrs. Evans learned to fly during a time when female pilots were a rarity. "Flying opened up a whole new world for me," she once said. "I think often about all that I would have missed had it not been for flying." She and her first husband Tod Davis shared a love of flying that started when they purchased their first plane in 1927, an open cockpit they would use to take quick jaunts into the Oklahoma sky. During World War II, Broneta's flying skills were called into duty when she was chosen as one of three Oklahoma women to serve as Civil Air Patrol pilots and fly search missions.

Flying wasn't all business for Broneta, though. She competed in the Women's Air Derby, a transcontinental air race, three times during her lifetime with the last time just prior to her 69<sup>th</sup> birthday. In 1986, Broneta decided to perpetuate her love of flying by creating a fund to benefit the Oklahoma Air Space Museum's endowment fund at the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. When she died in 1994, she left a bequest to the Fund for Oklahoma City as a way to help the Oklahoma City Community Foundation meet emerging needs within the community.



ALLIE P. REYNOLDS

*Honoring his heritage*

# Although he pitched for the New York Yankees and was a successful business man, Allie P. Reynolds never forgot his heritage.

Born to a father who was Creek Indian and a mother of European descent, Mr. Reynolds was not raised in a traditional Native American household but he still had a strong respect for his father's ancestors. A back injury ended this native Oklahoman's professional baseball career but proved to be an entree into the business world. After working as the general manager for Atlas Mud Company, he subsequently bought the company and owned

it for 26 years before selling it. He came to the Oklahoma City Community Foundation in 1992 to establish the Allie P. Reynolds Trust to benefit the Center of the American Indian, an organization for which he served as board president. When he created the fund he had the following to say: "I'm pleased with what I did in baseball but I think I've done other things as well." True words spoken by a true native Oklahoman.



## ROBERT & HARRIETTE ORBACH

*A truly unique approach to giving*

In the early 1980s, Robert and Harriette Orbach decided to combine their passion for cooking and printing into a unique cookbook whose proceeds would benefit the Oklahoma City Museum of Art. Harriette, the cook in the family, wrote the recipes and Bob set each recipe, letter by letter and design by design, on his letterpress printing press. The result is a unique cookbook that is stacked loose inside a clear plastic easel box so that the recipe being used can be placed on top and viewed through the plastic. Today, a copy of the Orbachs' cookbook can be found in

the Rare Books Room of the New York Public Library. The couple printed 250 copies and sold 180 at their autograph party. Soon the remainder of the books was sold as well. Philanthropist John E. Kirkpatrick offered to match the proceeds from the sale of the book if the Orbachs agreed to use them to create a fund at the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. The couple agreed and in 1982 the Robert and Harriette Orbach Endowment Fund was established and continues today to provide support for the Oklahoma City Museum of Art.

35 YEARS  
35 STORIES





## DONNA NIGH FOUNDATION FUND

*Lasting support for special needs people*

Former first lady of Oklahoma Donna Nigh has worked as an advocate for the developmentally disabled citizens of the state since the late 1960s. Her passion was instrumental in the passage of legislation that created the state's first group home program where mildly retarded citizens can work and become a productive part of society. Her steadfast work on their behalf inspired a group of friends to make contributions to establish a private foundation named the Donna Nigh Foundation in 1985. Since its creation, the foundation has provided adaptive equipment

such as van lifts and wheelchairs for those residing in group homes or individuals cared for by their families. After 12 years of personally handling all funding requests, the Nighs turned over the administration of the foundation to the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. "We felt comfortable in knowing that even when we're not around, the foundation will carry on," Mrs. Nigh says. "It's still very much a part of my life. We know that it is going to be taken care of but that we will still have the ability to be a part of it."





DR. BERTHA LEVY

*In honor of her service*

In 1941, Dr. Bertha Levy opened a private pediatric practice in Oklahoma City. That same year, she began volunteer work at the Variety Health Center, a nonprofit organization that provides health care to low-income and indigent children and women of childbearing age. Although she is now retired from her private practice, Dr. Levy continues her support of Variety Health Center. In 1991, when Variety Health Center raised funds to renovate a

building, the board of directors made a contribution in Dr. Levy's name to the organization's permanent endowment fund at the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. The gift, made in appreciation of Dr. Levy's dedication and hard work on behalf of Variety Health Center and its clientele, ensures that her support for the organization will continue.



#### THE W. H. CROCUS SEEING EYE DOG FUND

*An anonymous donor gives a special gift to the visually impaired and blind*

Touched by the trusting relationship that existed between a blind man and his Seeing Eye guide dog, an anonymous donor decided he wanted to support a program that provides these invaluable dogs to the visually impaired and blind. In 1998, the donor came to the Oklahoma City Community Foundation to establish an advised fund for that purpose. The first grant was made to Seeing Eye, Inc., a nonprofit educational organization that has been

training dogs as guides for visually impaired individuals since 1929. The grant sponsored the training costs of one dog, Crocus. After nearly 18 months of training, Crocus, who was named for the fund, was placed with a visually impaired man. In a letter, he wrote that Crocus is "an excellent guide dog in every way and know as Crocus and I walk where we will in the world, it is in large part your good work that has made my independence possible."

DR. MARK ALLEN EVERETT &  
THE EVERETT FOUNDATION FUND

*"Having fun doing good"*

Dr. Mark Allen Everett has made philanthropy a part of his life for more than 40 years. And thanks to the Oklahoma City Community Foundation and its ability to handle the administrative details of his charitable funds, he is "having fun doing good" as he likes to say. Dr. Everett's relationship with the Oklahoma City Community Foundation began in 1973 when he created a fund in memory of his brother-in-law. A few years later he established a second memorial fund in honor of his father, Dr. Mark R. Everett, a longtime professor and former dean of the University of Oklahoma Medical School. Later he would create name funds in honor of his sister, Kathleen Everett Upshaw, and his mother, Alice Everett, who

celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2004. In 1994, Dr. Everett made the decision to transfer the assets of a private foundation he had started in 1960 to the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. Today, Dr. Everett is able to direct distributions to his specific charitable interests without the burdensome overhead of operating a private foundation as well as ensure his support continues into perpetuity. "I see the funds I've established more as an educational tool for later generations; a way to encourage them to direct money to charitable causes and to be involved in the spirit of doing good and giving."



1969  
2004



### MARGARET ANNIS BOYS

*A love for Oklahoma trees and flowers becomes a teacher's legacy*

Born on an Oklahoma farm, Margaret Annis Boys had more than a casual respect for the land. She was passionate about the trees and flowers native to the state and the stunning sunsets. A committed school teacher and principal at several Oklahoma City elementary schools during her 40-year career, Miss Boys loved to travel during the summers. She logged trips to Europe and Alaska in the 1930s as well as to numerous sites across the country. But it was the weekend drives through Oklahoma's countrysides that were her favorite trips. While Miss Boys never married, she had numerous friends, including her trust officer Mike Early and his

wife, whom she enjoyed entertaining with dinners or attending arts events. When making her estate plans, Miss Boys discussed with Mr. Early the best way to utilize her estate for the things she cared about. He recommended establishing a trust to be used for the care and maintenance of public parks and medians in Oklahoma City. Upon her death in 1991, the Margaret Annis Boys Trust, valued at \$1.2 million, was bequeathed to the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. Since that time, more than \$1 million has been used to fund beautification projects throughout Oklahoma City, just as Miss Boys had hoped.



TOM A. THOMAS, JR.

*A lifelong devotion to aviation*

After graduating from East Central College, Tom A. Thomas, Jr. left his hometown of Ada, Okla. and joined the U.S. Air Force where he served his country as a pilot in Europe during World War II. His service included 78 combat missions, including the downing of five enemy planes, for which he earned a Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross with two Oak Clusters and a Purple Heart. Mr. Thomas' Air Force service would launch a passion for aviation. An owner of several businesses during his life, Mr. Thomas' love for airplanes continued and over time he built a

remarkable collection of 72 antique, World War II and vintage aircraft, valued in excess of \$3 million, which he eventually donated to an aviation museum in Kansas. In 1970, Mr. Thomas illustrated his support for aviation through his initial gifts to the Oklahoma Air Space Museum Fund, an affiliated fund at the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. In addition, trusts established through his estate now benefit more than 40 nonprofit organizations including the Oklahoma Air Space Museum.

1969  
2004





THE WILLIAM E. & MARGARET H. DAVIS  
FAMILY FUND

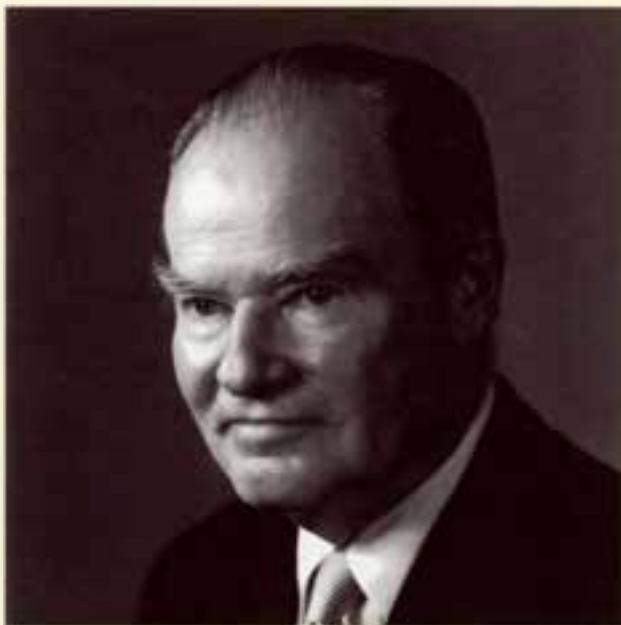
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*A family enterprise becomes a family legacy*

In the 1950s, William and Margaret Davis started the William E. Davis and Sons food distribution business in Oklahoma City as a family enterprise. They and their six children had an active role in the day-to-day operations of the company. Upon the sale of the business in 1986, the Davis family discussed with their attorney Bill Cheek the advantages of establishing a charitable foundation to continue the family's tradition of supporting local charities and causes. With recent changes in capital gains and tax rates, Mr. Cheek realized that the Oklahoma City Community Foundation was an excellent alternative for the family versus

creating a private foundation. In addition to the tax advantages, the family would not be responsible for the investment and administrative support of the fund since the Oklahoma City Community Foundation handles those details, thus allowing the family to concentrate on making charitable grants. In 1987, the Davis family established the first affiliated fund at the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. Although Margaret Davis died in 1990, the family remains actively involved in continuing their charitable legacy, distributing more than \$1 million in charitable gifts to date.





### MORRISON TUCKER

*Remembering a dedicated volunteer*

A successful banker known as a true innovator in his field, Morrison Tucker also dedicated his time and talents to Oklahoma City Beautiful as a volunteer for more than 20 years. Mr. Tucker's long banking career included highlights such as helping to design the banking system in the Philippines following World War II and founding of the American Bank Systems, Inc. which designed bank forms and software systems. A past Trustee of the Oklahoma City Community Foundation, Mr. Tucker also

served three terms as president of Oklahoma City Beautiful. In addition, he helped to write a book about the trees best suited for Oklahoma's climate. It was this longtime support of beautification efforts in Oklahoma City that moved his family to establish the Morrison Graham Tucker Beautification Fund at the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. The fund, established in 1994 following Mr. Tucker's death, is used by Oklahoma City Beautiful each year to honor a community volunteer.

1969  
—  
2004



FRANK & MERLE BUTTRAM

*A love of music continues through awards*

# A mutual love of music was central to the 50-year marriage of oilman Frank Buttram and his wife Merle.

A millionaire in his early 30s, Mr. Buttram loved to recall that the first 50 cents he ever earned picking cotton at age 8 was spent for a songbook. Concerned about the decreasing number of violin and string players, Mrs. Buttram, a former professor of violin at the University of Oklahoma, helped to establish string music programs in Oklahoma City high schools. "Without strings, the great heritage of symphonic and chamber

music given us through the centuries will be lost," she said. To encourage young people who are string players, Mrs. Buttram created the Buttram String Awards shortly after World War II. In 1991, the family transferred the fund to the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. Nearly 60 years after the Buttrams started this unique program, awards continue to be made to worthy Oklahoma high school students each year.



*Vincel "Vip" P. Crowe*



*Fred W. Dunlevy*

## CROWE & DUNLEVY

### *Perpetuating a firm's civic commitment*

Civic involvement is a hallmark of the law firm Crowe & Dunlevy. The importance of community involvement can be traced to the firm's original founder, Swedish immigrant Charles "Ole" Johnson. Following the establishment of the firm in 1902 in Oklahoma City, the well-liked Mr. Johnson quickly immersed himself in business and community organizations. Over the years, Crowe & Dunlevy has grown to be the state's largest firm with offices in Oklahoma

City, Tulsa and Norman. And, as it has from the first days, the firm encourages and supports its employees to become active within their communities. In celebration of its 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Crowe & Dunlevy created an endowment fund at the Oklahoma City Community Foundation through which it can continue its support for charitable causes.



## ED & NORMA LESLIE

### *Planning a gift to benefit others*

Service above self. The Rotary motto was also the personal motto of Ed and Norma Leslie. One of only 13 Rotarians worldwide to register more than 60 years of perfect attendance, Ed Leslie was an example of a selfless individual. After serving in World War II, Mr. Leslie returned to Oklahoma City where he married Norma and spent the remainder of his career selling life insurance and making lifelong friends. Active in several community organizations, Ed and Norma established an advised fund at the

Oklahoma City Community Foundation in 1995 with appreciated stock. From this fund they were able to support the nonprofit organizations they cared about. Mr. Leslie's perfect attendance at Rotary ended upon his death in 2002. Norma passed away in 2004. It came as no surprise to their friends that they had left the majority of their estate—more than \$2 million—to five nonprofit organizations, continuing their legacy of service above self.



WILLIE ELIZABETH SHIPLEY

*Providing for "needy students"*

As a clerk for the Oklahoma State Senate from 1923 until her retirement in 1971, Willie Elizabeth Shipley recorded some of the most colorful political events in the state's history. Throughout her career—which spanned the terms of 15 governors—she recorded the development of a young state. A native of Mangum, Okla., Miss Shipley graduated from the Oklahoma College for Women thanks to a scholarship from the Daughters of the American Revolution. She always appreciated that the scholarship had provided her an opportunity she wouldn't have ordinarily had. To show her gratitude for that opportunity, Miss

Shipley would designate a portion of her estate to the Oklahoma City Community Foundation to create a permanent endowment fund that would provide assistance to what she described as "needy students," those who wanted to go to college but didn't have the financial means. Since 1981, the Willie Elizabeth Shipley Fund has assisted hundreds of "needy students" in obtaining an education beyond high school. And since 1997, the fund has provided tuition assistance to former foster-care youth through the Oklahoma Youth With Promise Scholarship Program.





### JACK ABERNATHY

*His charitable giving benefits both his community and his family*

A successful oilman and banker for more than 40 years, Jack Abernathy appreciated a good deal. As a Trustee of the Oklahoma City Community Foundation during the 1970s, he came to understand how charitable giving could benefit both his community and his family. Over the years, Mr. Abernathy gifted stock, oil and gas properties and mineral rights to an advised fund through which he supported a variety of charitable interests. He also established charitable remainder trusts for two relatives, provid-

ing them with income during their life and, upon their deaths, the full value of the trust came to his fund at the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. Mr. Abernathy described this method of charitable giving as "jumping the generation gap;" in other words a means by which to provide for a loved one while also avoiding burdensome inheritance taxation. Mr. Abernathy's creative approach to charitable giving has resulted in a perpetual stream of support for the community he loved.



## THE LOVE FAMILY FUND

### *Building a family's legacy*

In 40 years, Tom and Judy Love have witnessed their family-owned company—Love's Travel Stops & Country Stores—grow from one remote gas station in western Oklahoma to more than 160 locations in 25 states. A major presence along highways and in smaller communities, the company employs more than 3,600 people. Through hard work and determination, the Love family has created a successful enterprise. It is with this same

hard work and determination that they approach their charitable giving. Established in 1999 through the contribution of property, the Love Family Fund provides a way for the couple and their four grown children to work together to make charitable gifts to the causes they care about. As a result, the Love Family Fund has become an important benefactor to several local charities.





PENDLETON & ROBIN WOODS

*Giving to others defines their lives*

As a former prisoner of war during World War II, Pendleton Woods has much to be thankful for. And, along with Robin his wife of nearly 60 years, he has spent most of his life sharing his goodwill with others. In addition to his service in World War II, Mr. Woods is also a veteran of the Korean War, where he served with the 45<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. After retiring from the Oklahoma National Guard after 41 years of service, Mr. Woods was the director of the American Citizenship Center at Oklahoma Christian University until he retired in 1996. In addition to their community involve-

ment, Mr. Woods is also a noted historian and author of several historical books. The Woods have been steady contributors to the Oklahoma City Community Foundation for a number of years. They support organizations including the Oklahoma City/County Historical Society, the Epilepsy Foundation for the Sooner State, Oklahoma City Beautiful, Boy Scouts of America - Last Frontier Council, Oklahoma Christian University and the Oklahoma County Senior Nutrition Program.



*Raymond Long with wife Laura Ambrose*

WORDS of JESUS FOUNDATION FUND

*Compassion for the homeless leads to a special gift*

Raymond Long's compassion for the poor and homeless led him to compile a book titled "All the Words of Jesus." And, he wished for all of the proceeds from the 510-page book to benefit several charitable organizations in Oklahoma City who help the less fortunate. Mr. Long, a retired postal worker, felt strongly that there should be an alphabetical concordance of all of Jesus' words as written in the King James version of the New Testament. A true labor of love, the project took 15 years to complete. Unfortunately, Mr. Long became ill about the time the manuscript was to be printed, so he turned to his good friend

Pendleton Woods to complete the project. Mr. Long bequeathed \$100,000 to pay for publishing costs and designated that all proceeds from sales were to be directed to the chosen nonprofit organizations. Publishing costs totaled less than \$20,000 so the remainder of the bequest, along with proceeds from the sale, were contributed to the Words of Jesus Foundation Fund at the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. Since the book's publication in 1993, annual grants have been distributed to assist in providing services for the poor and homeless. Just as Mr. Long had wished.





### FLORENCE OGDEN WILSON

*Making lasting gifts to five nonprofit organizations*

Florence Ogden Wilson was a member of the Harn family, one of Oklahoma City's pioneer families. Born in New York City, she moved to Oklahoma City to live with her aunt and uncle, Alice and William Fremont Harn, soon after the death of her mother. After graduating from Vassar, she returned to Oklahoma City to work for her uncle, a federal prosecutor and land developer. Miss Wilson soon became active in numerous civic and church activities, serving on many boards and was the first female trustee at Oklahoma City University. After inheriting much of the Harn homestead and estate, Miss Wilson sold a tract of land to the State of Oklahoma and deeded 10 percent interest—nearly

\$50,000—to the Oklahoma City Community Foundation to establish permanent endowment funds for five nonprofit organizations: National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum, Oklahoma Zoological Society, YMCA, YWCA and the Allied Arts Foundation. Her gift, made in 1971, was the first designated endowment fund gift the Oklahoma City Community Foundation had received. Miss Wilson died in 1979 at the age of 90. We believe she would be pleased to know that her simple gift of 10 percent interest in a piece of property continues to provide an annual stream of income for these five organizations.



DR. GILBERT & AULENA GIBSON

*Leading the way for their community*

For Dr. Gilbert and Aulena Gibson, supporting charitable organizations in Lawton is second nature. The couple, both native Oklahomans, moved to Lawton in 1958 where Dr. Gibson opened a private dentistry practice. In the early 1970s, Dr. Gibson left dentistry to charter and serve as chairman of both Citizens Bank and First Commercial Bank, which sold in 1998. For Mrs. Gibson, her civic involvement includes serving as the first female president of Lawton Philharmonic and on the boards of the Oklahoma Heritage Association and the Oklahoma Arts Institute. To help further arts education for Lawton area students, the couple established the Oklahoma Arts Institute Scholarship fund at the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. Through this fund, the

Gibsons are able to help students from any economic, social and cultural background attend the prestigious Oklahoma Summer Arts Program at Quartz Mountain. This two-week residential school provides professional training to Oklahoma's artistically talented students, age 14-18. In 1999 Dr. Gibson helped to create the Lawton Community Foundation, an affiliated fund at the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. Initial funding was provided through the Lawton Retail Merchants Association. In its first five years the Lawton Community Foundation has established 19 agency endowment funds and has reinvested more than \$265,000 back into the community.

1969  
2004



*Dick Clements, Sr. & William M. Cain, Sr. tasted and tested coffee blends at Cain's Coffee Company.*

CAIN'S COFFEE

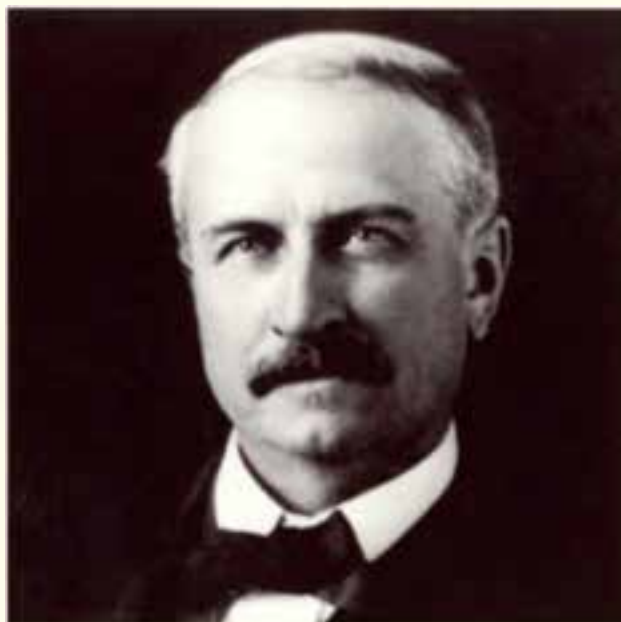
*An Oklahoma company gives back*



# William M. Cain, Sr. learned the art of survival from his mother.

Following the death of her husband in the late 1890s, Mrs. Cain loaded her nine children into a horse-drawn wagon and headed west from Indiana to Oklahoma. Shortly after joining the U.S. Navy, Cain eyed his first pile of newly picked coffee beans in Brazil. From that point, he knew he had to find a way to bring that quality of beans to the United States. With great deliberation and faith, values he learned from his mother, he saved his money so he could one day own his own coffee business. After returning to Oklahoma City following his Navy service, he bought

out the nearly defunct Western Tea and Coffee Company in 1919. Initially, it was a one-man operation. Cain roasted his own beans, grounded, packed and peddled it on foot from a basket he carried door-to-door. Today, Cain's Coffee remains one of the top sellers in grocery stores across the state. The company has not forgotten the roots of its founder and his gratitude to his community. Gifts from the Cain's Coffee Company Fund support the Fund for Oklahoma City, chosen because of the fund's ability to meet the emerging needs of the community.



## CLASSEN AWARDS

*A developer honors outstanding students*

Anton H. Classen was a real estate developer in Oklahoma City during the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. Soon after World War I, he sold 6.3 acres of land located in the central part of the community to the Board of Education to build a school and, in 1919, Classen High School opened. In 1919, he created the Classen Awards for the top boy and girl in the senior class. Following Mr. Classen's death in 1922, his wife continued the annual awards until her death in 1955 when a group of former award winners

created a trust at a local bank to continue the awards. In 1998, the Classen Awards Association transferred the trust's assets to the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. When Mr. Classen established the awards, he did so to honor students who held the "greatest promise of a worthy contribution to the progress of the world by reason of strength of character, record of scholarship, activities of leadership and all-around achievement." Through the Classen Awards Fund, Mr. Classen continues to do just that.



WILLIAM T. "BILL" PAYNE

*"The price we pay for living on this earth is what we do for others"*

A successful businessman who came from humble beginnings, Bill Payne never forgot the importance of helping his community. He lived by the adage that "the price we pay for living on this earth is what we do for others." Born to a poor farm family in Nebraska, Mr. Payne moved to Oklahoma as a young child. Earning a degree from Oklahoma A&M College in 1915, he worked his way through the Massachusetts Institute of Technology going door-to-door selling pots and pans. Mr. Payne worked on several oil rigs before forming his own company, Big Chief Drilling. Regardless of

his success, he always felt compassion for those less fortunate. "I'd rather be lucky than smart," he once said. His compassion led him to create Payne Petroleum with the sole purpose of providing for a permanent endowment fund at the Oklahoma City Community Foundation upon his death. In 1981, his bequest of the oil company more than doubled the assets of the Oklahoma City Community Foundation at that time. Today, the William T. "Bill" Payne Fund continues the charitable wishes of a man who never forgot about helping others.



*First B.C. Clark Jewelers store in Purcell.*

### B.C. CLARK FAMILY FUND

*A fund to celebrate a business milestone*

In recognition of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of B.C. Clark Jewelers in 1992, members of the family established an advised fund at the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. In 1892, young B.C. Clark, newly trained in watchmaking by his brother, moved to Purcell, Indian Territory, to set up his workbench in the corner of a five and dime on Main Street. Most of Mr. Clark's first customers were railroad workers whose livelihood depended upon precise timepieces. In 1929, Mr. Clark moved the business

to downtown Oklahoma City. Surviving the Dust Bowl, the Great Depression and other economic challenges, the business has continued to be owned and operated by family members, now into the fourth generation. "We are pioneer Oklahomans; our roots are here," said B.C. Clark, Jr. when the family established the fund. "Oklahoma City has been good to us in business and we think this is the best avenue to do something for a number of charities."



DON & WILLADEAN RAMSEY

*Supporting their community*

When Don and Willadean Ramsey met at a pig sale in the 1960s, they may not have realized the important role that pork would play in their future. As an agriculture education teacher, Mr. Ramsey was constantly faced with the challenge of helping his FFA chapter raise money to fund on-going projects. To meet this challenge, Mr. Ramsey began processing pigs raised by his FFA members and making breakfast sausage for the students to sell. The popularity of selling sausage as a fundraiser grew quickly, as did the number of groups wanting to participate. Family-owned and operated in Jones, Okla. since 1969, the Blue & Gold Sausage

Co. today helps more than 800 youth groups and nonprofit organizations raise money for trips, community projects, equipment and other needs. The Ramseys, married since 1966, made their first charitable gift to the Oklahoma City Community Foundation in 1979 and continued to make individual gifts until 2001 when they established an advised fund. Today, the couple and their two children recommend grants from the fund to provide ongoing support to charitable organizations and agricultural education programs.

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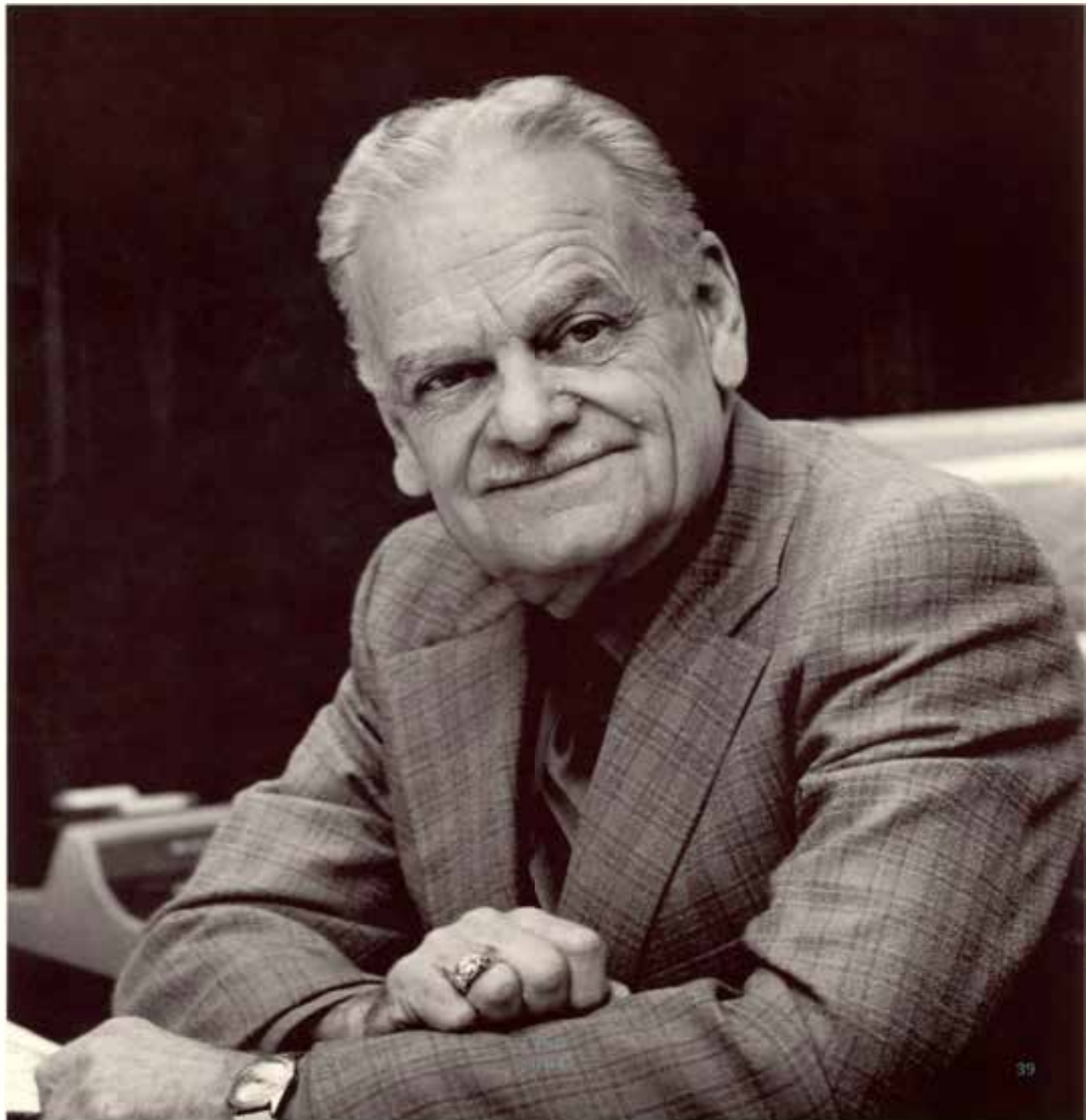
## G. ED HUDGINS

*Encouraging students through scholarships*

G. Ed Hudgins' last name provided the "H" in the Oklahoma City-based architecture and engineering firm of HTB, Inc. A graduate of Chickasha High School, Mr. Hudgins earned his degrees in engineering and architecture from Oklahoma A&M College in Stillwater. After serving in the U.S. Navy during World War II, he returned to Oklahoma City and rejoined his partners Ralph Ball and Verlin Thompson in 1946. Mr. Hudgins served as executive vice president and later as president of the firm until his retirement in 1984. A man always thankful for his good fortunes, he established an advised fund at the Oklahoma City Community Foundation in 1989 by transferring shares of stock. In addition

to using the fund to support several charitable organizations, Mr. Hudgins also sought to encourage students pursuing architectural degrees at his alma mater. Today, the G. Ed Hudgins Scholarship is awarded each year to two fourth-year students at Oklahoma State University—one pursuing architectural design and the other the structural option degree—who are ranked in the top 50 percent of their class and demonstrate a strong financial need. Although Mr. Hudgins died in 1993, his scholarship program continues to help worthy students realize their professional dreams.







DIANE GUMERSON

*Remembering a volunteer's commitment*

The Diane Gumerson/Overholser Mansion Fund is a fitting tribute to a woman who gave freely of her time and talents to the causes she cared about. An Oklahoma City native, the wife and mother of three was involved in numerous community activities and projects including the Oklahoma City Philharmonic, the Junior League and the American Cancer Society. As a longtime volun-

teer and past chairman of the board for the Overholser Mansion, it seemed fitting when friends and family joined together to create the Diane Gumerson Memorial Fund at the Oklahoma City Community Foundation following her death in 1996. The fund benefits the Overholser Mansion, an historical home located in central Oklahoma City.



DONNA KORNBAUM

*In memory of her husband*

Donna and Harry Kornbaum created a business that took them all over the world, more than once. As owners and operators of Rainbow Travel Service, Inc. for more than 40 years, the couple accompanied their customers on numerous exciting and exotic trips around the world through Rainbow Tours. Together the couple built their Oklahoma City-based business into one of the largest travel agencies in the Southwest. When Harry died in 1999,

Mrs. Kornbaum decided she wanted to repay the community that had been so good to her and Harry as well as provide herself with guaranteed income for life. She established the Harry E. & Donna J. Kornbaum Fund at the Oklahoma City Community Foundation through a charitable gift annuity. Through the fund she is able to continue the support of the charitable organizations she and Harry cared about as a couple.

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JANE B. McMILLIN

*Continuing a teacher's passion*

The Jane B. McMillin/Casady School Primary Division Fund recognizes the dedication and commitment of a longtime teacher at Casady School. The well being of children was central to Jane McMillin. In addition to her teaching duties at Casady School, the Massachusetts native also served as president of Rainbow Fleet, a childcare advocacy organization, until her death in 1996. At one

time, the wife and mother of three had also served as coordinator for Montessori teacher training at Oklahoma City University, where she earned her master's degree. Through a memorial fund established at the Oklahoma City Community Foundation, her family and friends were able to perpetuate her passion for children and teaching, benefiting students at Casady School.



### THE MASON FAMILY

*Making philanthropy a family value*

The Mason family believes in community service and giving back to others. In addition to being a successful business owner, Steve Mason and his two sons are actively involved in Boy Scouts and recently established an award fund at the Oklahoma City Community Foundation to further the ideals of both Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. When Steve and his wife Kym decided to establish an advised fund at the Oklahoma City Community Foundation, they did so with the intention of involving their three teenage children in the experience of making grant recom-

mendations to charitable organizations. The children—Travis, Marie and George—take their role in the process seriously. When considering a charitable organization or cause to support, the children take the time to interview potential recipients in order to learn more about the organization's mission and needs. And when it comes to decision time, each family member has an equal vote. Through this experience, Steve and Kym are ensuring that philanthropy—helping your community—remains a priority in their children's lives.



**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE**

about how the Oklahoma City Community Foundation can help you help the community, please contact us at 405/235-5603 or visit [www.occf.org](http://www.occf.org).

35 YEARS  
35 STORIES





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