

TEXAS★LEADER

PLANNING TO CHANGE THE WORLD



Law, Love & Legacy

The lives of Professors
Louise and Steven
Weinberg

Spring 2022



TEXAS
The University of Texas at Austin



From the President

At The University of Texas at Austin, we strive to do work that changes the way the world thinks and lives.

On March 4 and 5, we launched the public phase of our What Starts Here campaign — the most ambitious fundraising effort in the history of higher education in Texas. This campaign is a linchpin to realizing our ambition to become the world's highest-impact public research university.

We celebrated Longhorn pride that weekend, showcasing the tremendous impact of philanthropy on our campus and community. Friday's festivities were capped with a spectacular fireworks display featuring images of our Texas Leadership Society members projected onto the Tower. Saturday included inspiring panels highlighting the work of students who have benefited from scholarships, TEDxUTAustin sessions with thought leaders, and the 25th annual Texas Leadership Society luncheon, where we gathered with more than 440 alumni and friends whose investments in UT's future have demonstrated their belief that what starts here changes the world. We are so grateful for and encouraged by your incredible generosity!

Our campaign fundraising goal is \$6 billion — more than our last two campaigns combined! To date, we've raised more than \$3.5 billion toward this goal and are working to secure \$1 billion in gifts so our outstanding students have the support they need to succeed.

As always, our extraordinary alumni, students, faculty, and staff make this progress possible. We are in a unique place in Austin and Texas — a diverse and vibrant state with resources like no other and a city that is growing into an absolute powerhouse for technology, business, and the arts. And our pursuits — from education to research to our unique personal journeys as Longhorns — continue to make an impact around the world.

I hope you enjoy these photo highlights from our campaign launch. They represent not only the culmination of years of planning but also the tremendous spirit that keeps Longhorn Nation thriving and strong!

What starts here starts with you.

Hook 'em!

Jay Hartzell, President
The University of Texas at Austin



1. The official campaign launch was capped with a spectacular fireworks display. 2. Alumnae Andrea Anderson and Yolanda Hall celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Texas Leadership Society luncheon. 3. Members of the What Starts Here Campaign Executive and Steering Committees joined President Jay Hartzell to announce UT's \$6 billion fundraising goal. 4. Kevin Lopez '21, shown here with Michael Dell, shared how the scholarship and support he received as a Dell Scholar helped him reach graduation. 5. Students from the Department of Theatre and Dance performed at TEDxUTAustin. 6. Dr. Ernest and Sarah Butler mingled with students before the 25th Texas Leadership Society luncheon. 7. Former Longhorn football star and current faculty member Octavious Bishop moderated a TLS luncheon panel featuring President Jay Hartzell and President Emeritus William Cunningham.

In my own words
**Law, Love
& Legacy**

Professor Louise Weinberg



FORTY YEARS AGO, AS A YOUNG PROFESSOR, I was offered the opportunity to teach at The University of Texas School of Law—a place that was on the minds of every law student and professor in the country at the time. The Supreme Court had ruled on the highly influential case of *Sweatt v. Painter*, declaring that separate facilities could never be equal at the UT School of Law. With UT's celebrity faculty, its splendid facilities, all handsomely appointed, and one of the world's greatest law libraries, there was no way I could refuse the offer—even though it meant parting from my husband. Steven was a world-famous physicist and Nobel laureate, and there was no way he would ever leave Harvard and our dear little house in Cambridge.

We thought it would be possible for us to get by, rejoining each other in Cambridge for Christmas and summers, and he would fly into Austin to visit me when possible. It was difficult for us, but we managed. When my husband was in Austin, we invited our new colleagues to parties and little dinners—we had such fun! The physicists were as

◀ Photo: Sloan Breeden

▼ Louise and daughter Elizabeth (far right) accompanied Steven (center) to the Netherlands, where Queen Beatrix received Nobel laureates on August 31, 1983. Photo: Rob C. Croes



▼ Married in 1954, Louise and Steven enjoyed more than 65 years together.



friendly as the lawyers. The physics department at UT was a fine one, with colleagues Steven knew and admired. We were meeting people not only within our departments, but from all walks of life: politicians, authors, actors. And there was the dear, sweet Texas friendliness. The country music. Mexican food, which was even better than it is today. And the wonderful theaters, symphony, ballet and the opera as well.

And then a funny thing happened. Steven realized he was having more fun in Austin than in Cambridge. Imagine getting on a plane on a freezing wet February day in Boston and arriving in Austin to cheery Texas sunshine and smiling folks who said, "How're you t'day?" and "Can I help ya with that bag?" In those days, the old County Line was barbecuing on the premises, and the whole parking lot smelled delicious. They could smoke beef ribs for 18 hours and still keep the meat rare. Steven would get off the plane and say, "Take me to County Line."

Two years after we parted, my husband decided he loved Austin, UT and me more than he loved Harvard, and applied for a professorship in the

physics department here. President Peter Flawn interceded and found donors who could match the salary my husband had at Harvard. They created a chair for him with research funding. It was sufficient to create the Theory Group he directed, which rapidly became a primary mover in the world of physics and cosmology. Steven brought physicists into the world of astronomy, astronomers into the world of quantum physics, and put UT at the center of such ferment. Without the support of the community, none of this magic could have happened.

“The physics department has offered its first honorary Steven Weinberg Lecturer to the very physicist my husband would have chosen. You can imagine how proud I feel.”

— Louise Weinberg

We went everywhere together. He would accompany me on my travels to the American Law Institute in Philadelphia, or to Washington, D.C. or New York or San Francisco. He was constantly traveling around the world, leading the whole profession of quantum theorists in a massive effort to unify all of the laws of nature. And his effort succeeded. Today all the forces of nature are described by one mathematics, with the single exception of gravity.

I'm now retired, and Steven is gone. When I miss my husband too much, I go to YouTube, type in his name, and one of his distinguished lectures pops up. It is a great comfort to me. It is also a great pleasure



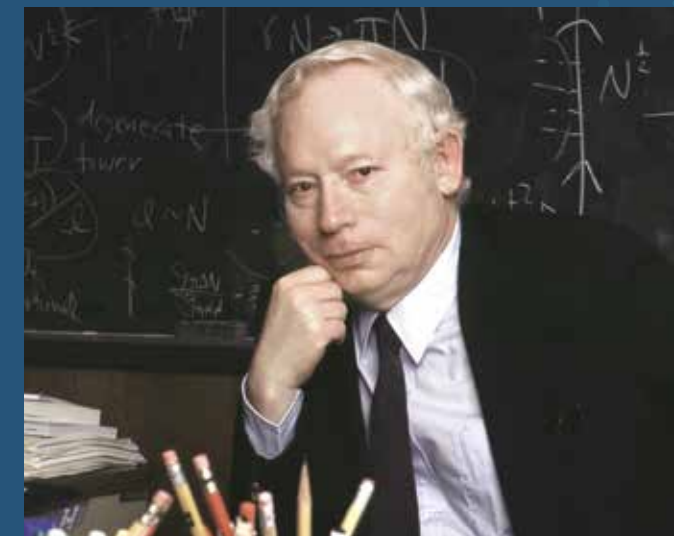
to me to have helped establish lectureships of that kind right here at UT, in his name and in mine.

While it is prudent that I maintain my financial security in my lifetime, the gift officers at UT have helped me to see I can leave some of my assets in my will to establish honorary lectureships and illustrious chairs. The deans of the physics department and the law school thought it a wonderful idea to have an honorary lectureship and prizes to bestow. Each contributed matching funds, allowing UT to get started on my idea right away. The physics department has offered its first honorary Steven Weinberg Lecturer to the very physicist my husband would have chosen. You can imagine how proud I feel.

These days UT is more important than ever, with engineering and business schools ranked at the very top in this country, prestigious law and physics departments, and the continued affection and backing of Austin's wonderful community. Austin draws the country's best and brightest, with down-home friendliness and the whole community's support for our great university at the core of that magnetism. ■

“The progress of science has been largely a matter of discovering what questions should be asked.”

— Steven Weinberg



In July 2021, the world lost one of its most prolific contributors to the field of physics. Through his research, teaching and writings, Dr. Steven Weinberg forever transformed our understanding of the origin and nature of the universe.

Dr. Weinberg joined the faculty of The University of Texas at Austin in 1982. In his role as a professor and researcher, he elevated the university's status and set the stage for future generations' advancements in physics, in fields ranging from astronomy to quantum mechanics. He built a theory group that earned a reputation of excellence worldwide and turned the ninth floor of UT Austin's Physics, Math and Astronomy Building into a thriving intellectual hub and destination.

Over nearly four decades, Dr. Weinberg and his colleagues trained generations of

theoretical physicists, many of whom are now professors at premier universities and leaders in finance and technology.

To commemorate his life, work and significant contributions to the depth of human knowledge, UT Austin recently established The Weinberg Institute for Theoretical Physics. The institute will support future breakthroughs in physics by supporting the work of talented graduate students and postdoctoral scholars, and by attracting scientists to the university to continue Dr. Weinberg's legacy.

On March 21, 2022, Frank Wilczek, the Herman Feshbach Professor of Physics at MIT and 2004 Nobel laureate in physics, delivered the first in a planned series of memorial lectures. The institute's inaugural triannual conference is scheduled for spring 2023.



Contributions to UT's College of Natural Sciences will ensure Dr. Weinberg's legacy continues to drive future innovation and discovery. **Visit cns.utexas.edu/giving**



A Perfect Foundation

Partners in business and in life, Jeff Helton and Bruce Garrison share how their UT experience paved the way to success.

For Jeff Helton (BBA '78, MBA '80) and Bruce Garrison (BBA '67, MBA '72), what started at The University of Texas at Austin took them far from the Forty Acres and high up the career ladder. They became the top real estate investment trust advisors in the country, with a lifestyle that demanded lengthy commutes to their offices in Manhattan from their home in Greenwich, CT — “a home we'd only ever see in the dark,” says Jeff.

Now that the Brazosport, TX, natives are back in their home state, their lifestyle is considerably more relaxed. Bruce's office is just a mile and a half down the road from their primary home in Houston, which they share with their five-year-old Jack Russell terrier, Button. Weekends are spent at a second home on the San Bernard River — a residence they wryly refer to as their “villa.” Whether looking back on a high-octane career in the world's largest financial center or looking forward to a more low-key future, Bruce and Jeff acknowledge the role UT has played in both. They contend that neither their careers nor the lifestyle they currently enjoy would have been possible without their education from UT.

“I think it just laid the perfect foundation for me. Being in a large environment like UT helped prepare me to accept my first job in New York City. I owe a lot to the university,” says Bruce. Jeff adds, “Going to such a large and diverse institution, you have more confidence in entering the business world.”

The path to success did not start out smoothly for Bruce. After transferring from a two-year college to UT, he admits that “too many distractions” led to a string of middling grades during his bachelor's degree. The break from academics before graduate school gave him an opportunity to recalibrate. “I spent three years in the military after getting my bachelor's degree. My experience convinced me I was not going to re-up. Vietnam turned out to be quite a maturation process — one that allowed me to have a laser focus on my career,” he says.

When he returned to UT for graduate studies, his determination to succeed led him to become an A student. “That did a lot for my self-esteem and my understanding of what I could accomplish,” he says. In tribute to a mentor

◀ Photo: Sloan Breedon

who was particularly helpful in his academic progress, Bruce established an endowed chair in finance in Professor Ernest Walker's name.

With tremendous gratitude for all UT gave to them, Bruce and Jeff have individually and collectively made contributions that represent the 10th-largest booked estate gift in the history of UT and reflect their eclectic range of interests. Bruce established a finance professorship in the McCombs School of Business, and Jeff did the same in accounting. Bruce also has endowed a scholarship for the Longhorn Band, which he refers to as his “emotional connection” to the university. “The band supports all the sports so well. The performance it provides both pre-game and during halftime is one of my favorite things to watch,” he says.



“Being in a large environment like UT helped prepare me to accept my first job in New York City. I owe a lot to the university.”

– Bruce Garrison

A competitive swimmer in high school, Jeff still swims approximately 400 miles a year. He has endowed a scholarship for the men's swimming and diving team, where numerous Olympic medal-winners have trained. After making a generous gift to UT's Eddie Reese Outdoor Pool that resulted in the naming of a lane, Jeff visited the world-class facility, proudly noting that “Coach Reese said I was the first donor who had ever swum in it.”

Jeff and Bruce have received more than 200 thank-you notes from the Longhorn Foundation staff and Athletic Department, covering virtually all sports at UT. They've enjoyed hearing how their gifts have made a difference to scholarship recipients and faculty and staff members. The knowledge that their gift is in good hands, supporting causes they believe in, gives them both a sense of satisfaction and security. “You want to rest easy knowing your money is being well managed and well spent,” says Jeff. ■



▲ **Memories of great performances led Bruce to make a major gift to the iconic Longhorn Band.**

Jeff (left) was thrilled to participate in a practice with UT's swim team under the guidance of legendary coach Eddie Reese.

Pathways & Possibilities

Frances Berman met her husband Steve when she entered the wrong building for a job interview. Now the couple makes it their mission to open all the right doors for UT students.



“Being at UT was an experience like no other. Everything I took away into the world was because of being at UT and being in Austin.”

— Frances Berman

In every life there are moments of pure coincidence that can alter everything that follows. As a 23-year-old who was new to Los Angeles, Frances Berman (Chavez at the time) walked into the wrong building to drop off her résumé. As luck would have it, the company had a job opening that fit her skills. She interviewed on the spot and landed the position.

It was at that company—WEA Corp.—that she met Steve Berman, the man with whom she would share her life and her goals. The couple, now married for 35 years, has made plans that will change the lives of many Longhorns.

Established through a pledge and a bequest, the Frances and Steve Berman Endowed Scholarship in Music will support the dreams of students in The University of Texas at Austin’s Butler School of Music, where Frances earned a bachelor’s degree in music studies in 1986.

Coming to UT wasn’t part of Frances’ initial plan. After high school, she wanted to go on the road with a band. Her father insisted that she pursue further education, however, and Frances, the sixth of nine children, took a brief detour to a junior college. After two years there, the gifted soprano sought greater creative challenges and found her new home at UT.

“When I went to audition, I thought it was the most awe-inspiring place,” Frances recalls, “and I instinctively knew that I was where I should be. Being at UT was an experience like no other. Everything I took away into the world was because of being at UT and being in Austin.”

◀ **For the Bermans, life is a busy blend of family, career, activism and philanthropy.**

Photo: Meeno Peluce

The road eventually took the El Paso native far from the Forty Acres. Frances’ life in Los Angeles is as busy and complex as the city itself. Both she and Steve have enjoyed lengthy careers as music industry executives, promoting the work of such legendary artists as George Michael, Eminem and Lady Gaga, while also raising two daughters. Sharing her family’s belief in education, Frances recently founded 1VoteCloser, a nonpartisan nonprofit organization that informs voters on key local, state and national issues. Keeping all these plates spinning has not kept the Bermans from lending their time, energy and expertise to UT’s What Starts Here campaign—the boldest fundraising campaign in UT’s history. The Bermans are volunteer leaders of the College of Fine Arts’ campaign committee, serving as ambassadors and fundraising strategists, as well as members of the college’s Advisory Council.

Steve, a third-generation Californian and vice chairman of Interscope Geffen A&M, enjoys the opportunity to get involved with the school that opened so many doors for his wife. Fate may have brought them together, but the Bermans are not leaving their legacy to chance. Establishing an endowed scholarship seals their common goal: to create opportunities and smooth the path for the next generation of talented musicians.

“As you grow together,” says Steve, “you discover the goals you share at your very core. For Frances and me, it’s the convergence of education and culture. The opportunity to experience both should be given to as many people as possible—not just those who can afford it, but also those who have the opportunity to earn it.” ■

A Marriage of Art & Science



Stepping into the Lasdon household is like taking a tour of an exclusive museum. Dr. Leon Lasdon and his wife Laraine are avid art collectors with a penchant for fine Mexican yarn tapestries and Japanese ceramics. Their exquisite taste and shared appreciation for culture in all its forms — from fine art and theatre to jazz and poetry — keep the couple connected to each other and to cultural institutions at The University of Texas at Austin.

Little wonder, then, that the couple has established gifts through their estate to support UT's Blanton Museum of Art, Butler School of Music and Harry Ransom Center.

"UT has been very good to us, so we wanted to do something in return," says Leon, a retired professor whose career at UT spanned 30 years. "We think highly of the caliber of UT as an academic institution, and our gift represents our desire for others to access its resources after we are gone."

Their personal pursuits focus on culture, but the Lasdons' professional paths centered on business and research. Laraine is a business coach who has shown professionals how to use the concepts of philanthropy and volunteerism as corporate building blocks. Leon was a professor in both the McCombs School of Business and the Cockrell School of Engineering.

Photo: Sloan Breeden ▶

For Leon and Laraine Lasdon,
an estate gift sends their
message of esteem for the arts
at The University of Texas at Austin.





“The beauty of being a docent is sharing art with people in such a way that they leave excited about UT and eager to come back. We hope people will tell others about UT’s involvement in the arts.”

— LARAIN LASDON —



▲ Dedicated docents like the Lasdons create a meaningful experience for visitors to the Harry Ransom Center (top) and the Blanton Museum of Art.

“One thing that attracted me to UT was the scope of growth and collaboration occurring across UT’s programs, including engineering and business,” he says. “I liked the idea that I could work with a variety of people across disciplines on lots of interesting things, like aerospace engineering, civil engineering and chemical plants.”

Leon became a pioneer in optimization research. His many notable achievements in the field include being part of a team that created Solver, a popular Excel add-in used in business schools

worldwide. For this contribution, he won the Impact Prize from the Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences (INFORMS), the largest professional association for decision and data sciences. But Leon is most proud of his role mentoring doctoral students, many of whom have continued to stay in touch.

Laraine is quick to note the connection between Leon’s mathematical mind and his ability to not only appreciate art, but to create it. “A lot of mathematicians have a musical side,” she

notes. “He’s a quaint kind of algorithm-y type of guy, but many people don’t know he plays a mean trumpet. Plus, I started a poetry group, not expecting him to join, and he’s written a poem almost every month for six years.”

The couple shares many other interests, including daily walks through their neighborhood, playing golf and travel. Wherever they go, the Lasdons always make time to visit museums. This passion led them both to serve as docents in the Harry Ransom Center—UT’s internationally renowned humanities research center. In this role, they provided information to the center’s visitors, which number 60,000 annually. Docents at the Harry Ransom Center may be called upon to answer questions on such collections as Albert Einstein’s unpublished notes for his work on general relativity, or the original works of Frida Kahlo.

“Educating people is important to me,” Leon says. “It’s what I did my whole life. And it’s important to Laraine, too. She’s also a teacher, just as a docent.”

It’s a role Laraine also takes on at UT’s Blanton Museum of Art, Austin’s art destination for 200,000 community visitors each year and home to 21,000 works in its permanent collection. “The beauty of being a docent,” she explains, “is sharing art with people in such a way that they leave excited about UT and eager to come back. We hope people will tell others about UT’s involvement in the arts.” Laraine also serves as chair of the arts and culture committee for the Retired

Faculty-Staff Association of UT Austin, helping UT retirees stay connected to the arts on campus.

This shared desire to educate others on how UT has enhanced and enriched their lives through the arts is central to the couple’s estate plans. Supporting cultural endeavors, they believe, is an often overlooked opportunity. The Lasdons hope their gifts will inspire others to help maintain the university’s cultural institutions for future generations.

“Our gifts send the message that we value UT’s cultural offerings,” says Laraine. “We want to be part of a legacy that allows future generations access to the educational opportunities UT offers for careers in the arts.” ■



A Degree of Freedom

Getting a degree did more than change Ken Lackey's life. It may have saved it.

Ken Lackey attended The University of Texas at Austin in the late '60s — a particularly tumultuous time in American history. Although his years on campus played out against the backdrop of the Vietnam War, Ken looks back fondly on his graduate school years, spent listening to country music, socializing with classmates in Scholz Garten, and playing handball in Gregory Gymnasium. He earned his MBA in 1967, which led the Jackson, MS, native to a long and prosperous career in the energy and aerospace industries. In gratitude for what UT gave him, Ken has established a charitable remainder trust to provide students in the

McCombs School of Business access to the same kind of opportunities that changed the course of his life.

Ken arrived on the Forty Acres with an undergraduate degree in mathematics and physics from Ole Miss. He planned to continue his education in those fields, but some family friends attending UT arranged for him to meet with advisors in what then was called the College of Business Administration.

"My father was continually asking me, 'Son, what kind of job are you going to get with a degree in mathematics?' Truthfully, there were not a lot of jobs for mathematicians in those days. The business school's pitch was you can use your quantitative skills, and you can do it in the business world," Ken recalls.

Even without a background in business, Ken was impressed by what he saw during his visit to UT. He was offered a spot in the MBA program along with a small monetary scholarship and an out-of-state tuition waiver. He accepted, knowing his decision would have both near-term and lifelong ramifications for him.

In gratitude for what UT gave him, Ken has established a charitable remainder trust to provide students in the McCombs School of Business access to the same kind of opportunities that changed the course of his life.

"President Johnson had provided deferments to students in graduate school, and I had hoped the Vietnam War would be over by the time I graduated," Ken says. Unfortunately, the war not only outlasted his studies, but it had intensified. Ken had received an Army ROTC commission at Ole Miss and was facing a two-year active-duty military obligation after his graduation from UT, so the future held a high level of uncertainty.

"On the first day of my basic officer leadership course at Fort Sill," Ken recalls, "someone asked the sergeant, 'Can you tell us what the odds are of going to Vietnam?' The sergeant said, 'Oh, that's an easy one. 100%.'"

Serving in Vietnam was both a fact of life and a cause of concern for many young lieutenants. It was the height of the war and many of Ken's friends, ROTC colleagues and fellow officers had either been killed or wounded in combat. "After completing the basic officer leadership course, artillery officers like myself would spend the balance of their first 12 months with a unit in the United States and the last 12 months in Vietnam," Ken explains. "Being an artillery lieutenant in Vietnam was high risk because you were typically assigned with an infantry unit, and forward observers in Vietnam had a relatively short life span."

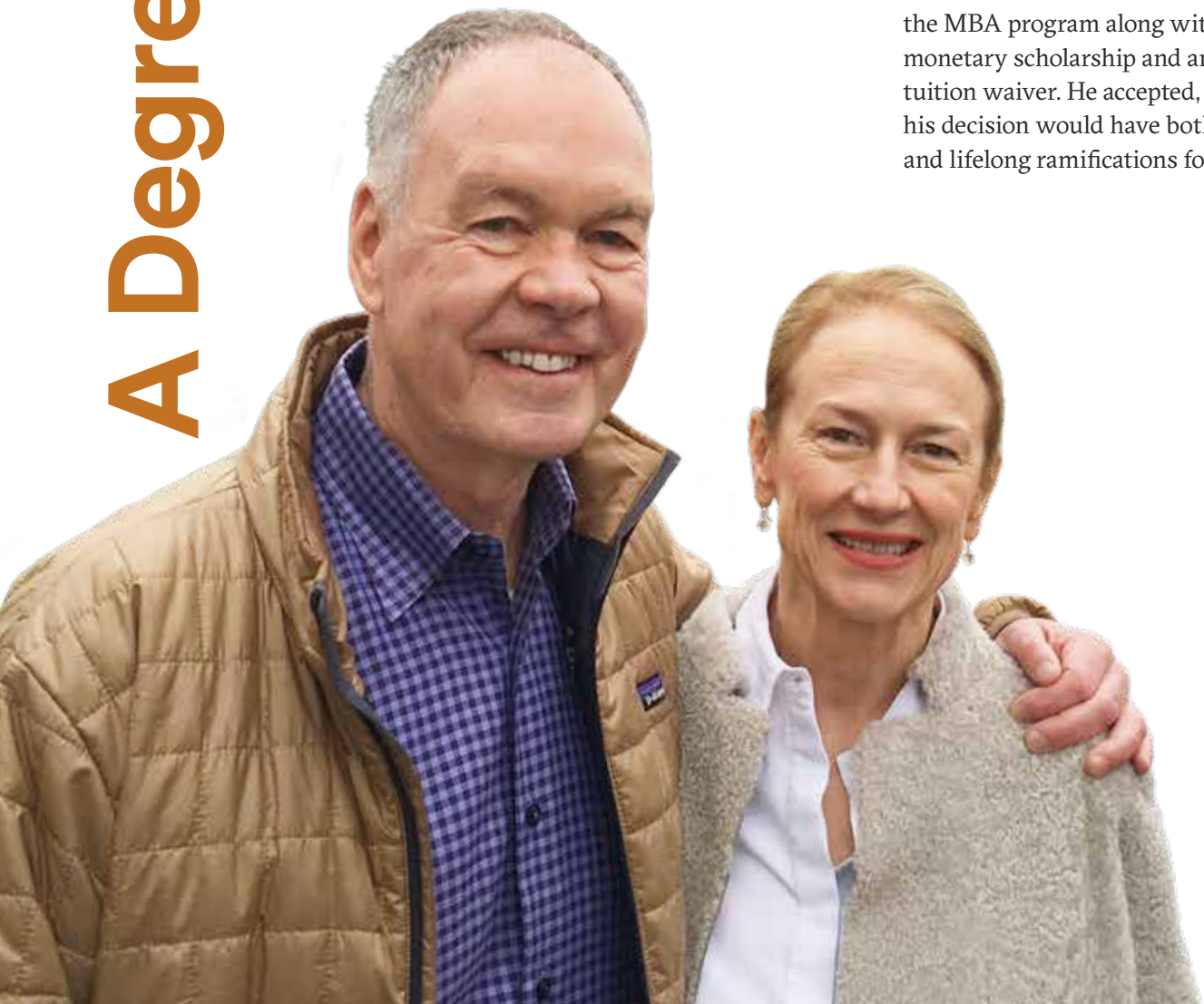
During this period, Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara established a program to train senior officers to use quantitative methods to improve risk analysis and decision-making. Ken applied to become an instructor in the program but was told

his odds of acceptance were slim because the Army frowned on having lieutenants instruct majors and colonels. Ken had one advantage many senior officers did not have — the application of quantitative skill sets to business problems that he had learned at UT. As a result, he and two other artillery lieutenants spent their last 12 months in the Army teaching operations research and quantitative analysis to senior military officers.

"When I think of giving something back to UT, I think of that. And I think of the fact that I basically went to UT for free. I'm not a nostalgic person," says Ken, "but I do acknowledge what I was given."

Ken's career also included several years in Oklahoma government as chief of staff to Governor Frank Keating and as president of the University of Oklahoma-Tulsa. "While I was there, somebody provided me with a presidential fund to use in whatever way I saw fit," recalls Ken, who hopes his gift to McCombs will allow Dean Lillian Mills and her successors the same type of freedom.

"I'm not smart enough to look ahead and know what UT's needs will be in 10 or 15 years but I think they'll always need some discretionary funds," says Ken. "They've got a good track record in selecting deans for the business school, and I know they'll use the money appropriately." ■



◀ Ken and Carol Lackey

Texas Leader SPOTLIGHT



Patricia Harris, B.S. Secondary Education '76
& **Carl Harris**
Fountain Hills, AZ

What is your favorite UT memory?

After the Longhorns won the national championship in 2006, we were sitting at home and I said, "Oh, I'd give anything to see the Tower lit up in orange!" It's just very dear to my heart. Carl said, "Let's go!" So we stood up, packed our bags, and got on a plane and flew to Austin. The University of Texas is a place that kind of calls you. It's always good to come back because it's something worthy to be part of.

How did UT prepare you for success?

I'm a first-generation college student. I left home at a young age and didn't have a lot of skills behind me. I didn't know what I wanted to do, so I took a very broad curriculum and received an outstanding education. Being at UT built my self-confidence. I became a part of the university community and the experience truly shaped me as an individual.

Why did you choose to include UT in your estate plans?

When we started to think about what to do with our estate, we developed certain criteria. We wanted to give to a worthy cause, one that would contribute to the future of the world. We know from experience that UT's promise — What starts here changes the world — is true. We know that any assistance we give to UT will be used in ways that align with our values.

What impact do you want your gift to make?

Somewhere out there is a very capable student who comes from less than supportive circumstances. There's a student who is awake in the middle of the night thinking, "I want to get an education. I want to better myself. I want to get out of my current circumstances, but I can't do it by myself." It's that student we think about. We're hoping our gift will provide opportunity and access to someone like that.



Mandy Price, BBA '03
& **Bennie King**, B.S. Biology '12
Dallas, TX

What is your favorite UT memory?

We met all our closest friends (including each other!) at UT, as well as our business partner and co-founder, Star Carter. Our company, Kanarys, began with our close friends, who are also McCombs and UT grads, and they were some of our very first employees.

Mandy: Seeing the Tower lit up is one of my favorite memories.

Bennie: It would have to be January 4, 2006, when UT beat USC in the Rose Bowl.

How did UT prepare you for success?

We gained knowledge in the classroom and additional skills through involvement in student organizations. During our time on campus, President Faulkner created the Racial Respect and Fairness Committee. The issues we worked on as students — creating a culture and environment where everyone feels like they belong — ultimately led to the creation of our business. Kanarys is focused on diversity, equity and inclusion, and is very much tied to our experiences at UT.

Meet University of Texas at Austin alumni and friends who are changing the world through philanthropy and careful estate planning.

Why did you decide to donate to UT?

We've never stopped being involved with the university, from serving on the BBA Advisory Council and engaging mid-career alumni with UT to being season ticket holders. When we realized we could make a future gift, that was very attractive to us. We felt our donation could have a big impact at UT in areas we hold as high priorities.

What impact do you want your gift to make?

As students, we benefited from so many diversity programs that made us feel welcome on campus. We want to make sure the university continues to invest in such programs so opportunities related to diversity, equity and inclusion will flourish. Limited funds should never be a reason for not creating safe spaces for underrepresented groups. We want to ensure DEI programs exist going forward, and that students in need of those programs know they belong.



Jane Rose, B.A. English '84
& **Tony Rose**, B.A. Mathematics '88, MPA '90
Austin, TX

What is your favorite UT memory?

We attended UT at different times, but were both members of the Longhorn Singers and met through mutual friends. Some of our favorite memories involve putting on shows and raising money for our traveling performances. We made great lifelong friends. By immersing ourselves in a community with people from around the world who had different backgrounds and beliefs, we learned a great deal about ourselves and how to work effectively with others. Not only did we earn our degrees at UT, but we acquired important life skills and gained independence.

Why did you choose to include UT in your estate plans?

Since we were students, we have attended UT sporting events and currently have season tickets for five sports — football, volleyball, men's and women's basketball, and baseball. We've gotten so much enjoyment out of Longhorn sports, and it just made sense to put Texas Athletics in our will. We established three funds to support UT student-athletes with undergraduate and graduate scholarships and professional development resources.

What impact do you want your gift to make?

We hope to give student-athletes an experience at UT that kickstarts the rest of their lives, much as the university did for us. Our gift helps student-athletes make the best use of their time on the field and in life to help them achieve their goals.

How did UT prepare you for success?

Tony: My master's degree in accounting prepared me for a long and successful career in auditing with the Texas State Auditor's Office and the Texas Department of Transportation.

Jane: My English degree gave me the flexibility to succeed in a wide range of roles and industries. I developed internal and external customer service skills and spent most of my career in various departments of a publishing company.

Cover Photo

Sloan Breedon

Submissions

TEXAS LEADER is published for members of the Texas Leadership Society and other alumni and friends of The University of Texas at Austin. To submit story ideas, comments, questions and address changes, please use the enclosed envelope, call us at 800-687-4602 or email giftplan@austin.utexas.edu.

Managing Editor

Adrienne Leyva

Writers

Adrienne Leyva
Sharon Reynolds
Audrey Webb

Art Director

Maria Huang

Designer

Anne-Charlotte Patterson

Wondering how to include the university in your estate plans? Here's the language we suggest:

I hereby direct \$_____ (or _____ percent of my residual estate) in cash, securities or other property to the Board of Regents of The University of Texas System for the benefit of The University of Texas at Austin.

This gift shall be for the further benefit of [college, school, unit]

and shall be used to [purpose]

As with any decision involving your assets and/or estate, we urge you to seek the advice of your professional counsel when considering a gift to The University of Texas at Austin.

texasleadermagazine.utexas.edu

TEXAS*LEADER

P.O. Box 7458

Austin, TX 78713-7458

giving.utexas.edu/giftplanning

Address service requested

Nonprofit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Austin, TX
Permit No. 391

INVEST IN TEXAS. INVEST IN YOUR FUTURE.

By creating a charitable gift annuity to benefit The University of Texas at Austin, you can make a gift now and count on income for the rest of your life.

**Learn more at utexas.planmygift.org
or give us a call at 512-475-9632.**



TEXAS

The University of Texas at Austin