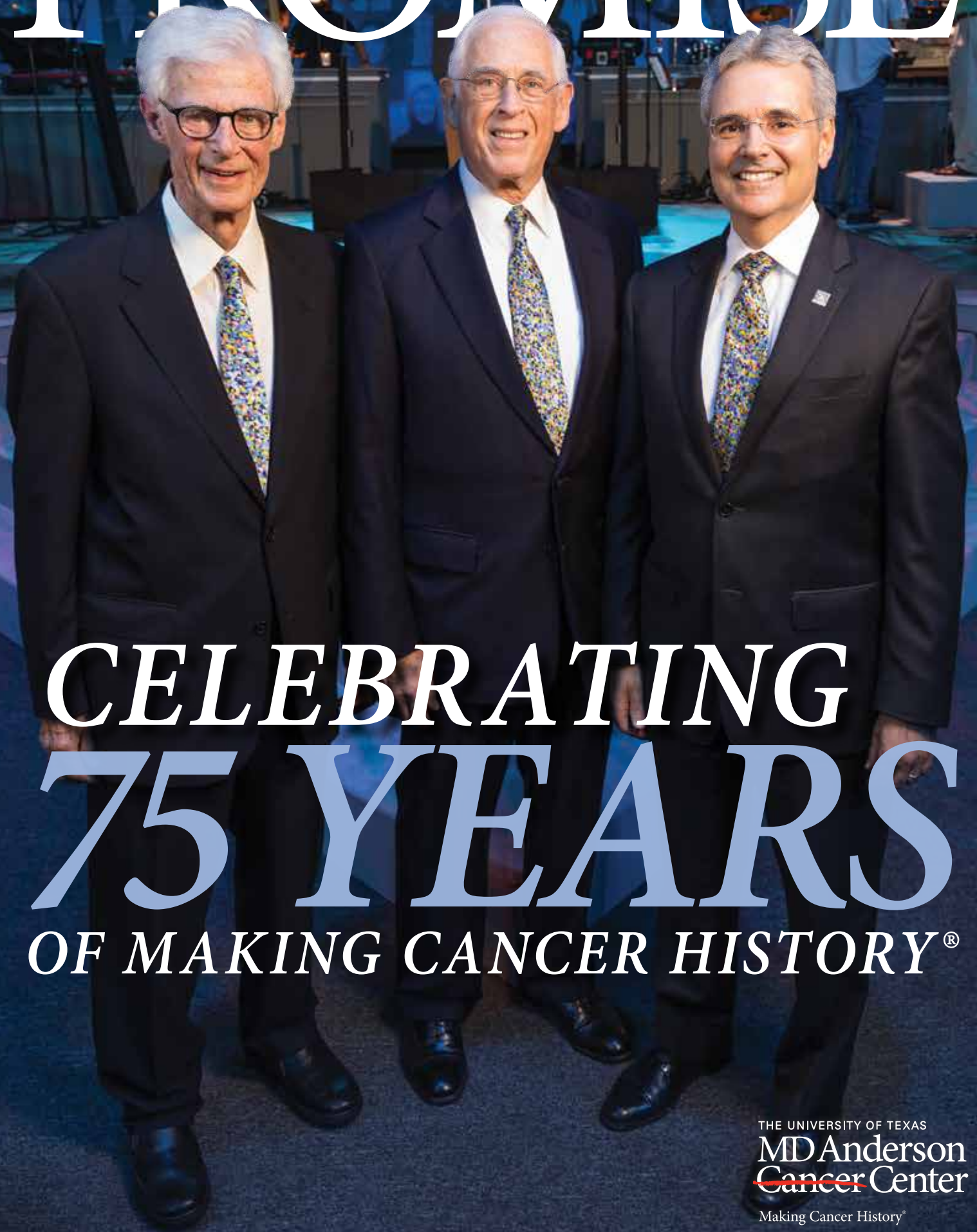


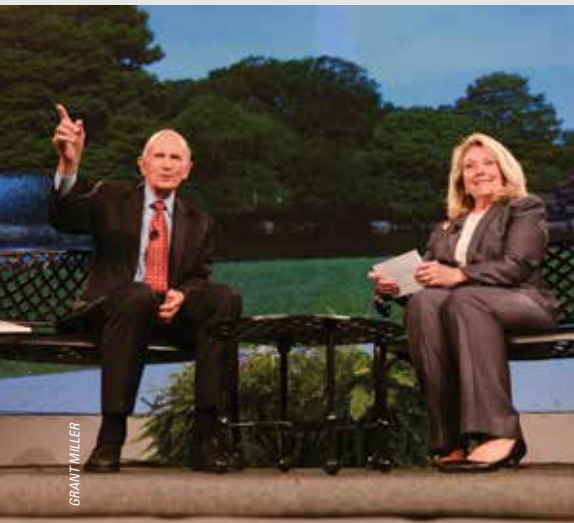
# PROMISE



## *CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF MAKING CANCER HISTORY®*

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MD Anderson Cancer Center Board of Visitors welcomes business, community leaders



F. CARTER SMITH/FCS PHOTOS

New members of the MD Anderson Cancer Center Board of Visitors attend an orientation session to learn more about their role in advancing the institution's mission to end cancer. **p. 3**



#### ON THE COVER:

As the stage is set for MD Anderson's 75th anniversary gala in November, former presidents Charles LeMaistre, M.D., and John Mendelsohn, M.D., pause with Ronald DePinho, M.D., current president. **F. CARTER SMITH/FCS PHOTOS**

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SPENCER YOUNG/FCS PHOTOS

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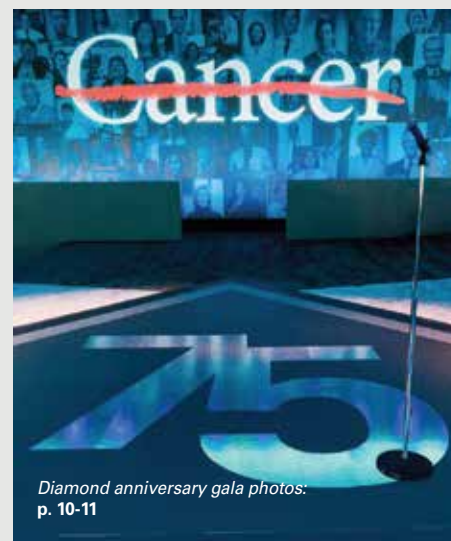
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Santa's Elves
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FCS PHOTOS

### ACCESS ANSWERS

To become a patient: Call 877-632-6789 or fill out the self-referral form at [mdanderson.org](http://mdanderson.org).

For more information, please visit [www.mdanderson.org/gifts](http://www.mdanderson.org/gifts) or call 800-525-5841.

Download Promise at [www.mdanderson.org/Promise](http://www.mdanderson.org/Promise).

If you do not want to receive certain fundraising communications from MD Anderson, please visit our website at [www.mdanderson.org/FundraisingOptOut](http://www.mdanderson.org/FundraisingOptOut) or contact us at 855-344-5272.

## PROMISE

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Amy Scarbrough

Comments? Suggestions? We welcome your perspective.  
Email us your thoughts: [promise@mdanderson.org](mailto:promise@mdanderson.org).



# WELCOME ABOARD

The MD Anderson Cancer Center Board of Visitors adds nine new members

The MD Anderson Cancer Center Board of Visitors, an appointed board of volunteers charged with advancing MD Anderson's mission to end cancer, welcomed nine new members at its Nov. 11 annual meeting. The new group reflects the board's national and international presence.

**FY2017 OFFICERS**  
 Chair: Jim Mulva  
 Chair-elect: Marsha Shields  
 Vice Chair: Don Evans  
 Immediate Past Chair: Mel Klein



The MD Anderson Cancer Center Board of Visitors welcomes new members: (standing, from left) Richard Anderson, Alan Batkin and James Archer; and (seated, from left) Christopher Damico and Ebru Ozdemir. Not pictured: Bill Daley; Doug Deason; Susan Epstein, M.D.; and Larry Hayward

F. CARTER SMITH/CFCS PHOTOS

**Richard H. Anderson**

Anderson was CEO of Delta Air Lines Inc. from 2007 to 2016 and recently served as executive chairman of Delta. Previously, he was executive vice president of UnitedHealth Group Inc. from 2004 to 2007, serving as president for the Commercial Services Group. Prior to that, Anderson was CEO of Northwest Airlines Corp. He currently is the lead director for Medtronic Inc. and serves on the board of directors of Cargill Inc. He resides in Houston.

**James B. Archer**

Archer serves as the president and CEO of KJ Energy, MV2 Entertainment and the JL Bar Ranch & Resort. He has more than 35 years of experience in the oil and gas industry. In 1993, Archer founded Multi-Chem Group. In 2011, he established the James B. & Lois R. Archer Charitable Foundation, which provides grants to nonprofit organizations, including MD Anderson, and currently serves as chairman of the board. He lives in San Angelo, Texas.

**Alan R. Batkin**

Batkin is the chairman and CEO of Converse Associates Inc., a strategic advisory firm. From March 2007 to December 2012, he served as vice chairman of Eton Park Capital Management L.P., a global, multidisciplinary investment firm. From 1990 to 2007, he was vice chairman of Kissinger Associates Inc., a geopolitical consulting company that advises

multi-national companies on business and political issues around the world. He resides in Greenwich, Connecticut.

**William M. (Bill) Daley**

Daley is a managing partner and head of U.S. Operations for Argentière Capital. Prior to joining Argentière in 2014, he served as President Obama's Chief of Staff from January 2011 to January 2012 and was involved in all aspects and issues faced by the president and the administration. Daley was vice chairman of JPMorgan Chase Inc. and chairman of the Midwest Region of the U.S. from 2004 to 2011. He lives in Chicago, Illinois.

**Christopher D. Damico**

Damico was born and raised in Pennsylvania and began his career in New York with Swiss Bank in 1988, focusing on leveraged corporate finance. In 1992, he was transferred to London where he extended his banking experience into mergers and acquisitions and high yield. In 1998, Damico joined Morgan Stanley and was promoted to managing director in 2000. He resides in Pacific Palisades, California.

**Douglas R. (Doug) Deason**

Deason serves as president of Deason Capital Services LLC (DCS), managing family assets, including a large holding of Xerox Corporation shares, municipal bonds, a majority holding in FUNimation Entertainment and 1200 Media, a

substantial holding in oil and gas operating company Foreland Resources, LLC and a large holding in global tax services firm Ryan LLC. Deason serves on several boards and committees, including the advisory board of Valesco Industries. He lives in Dallas.

**Susan Zane Epstein, M.D.**

Epstein is a family physician and serves on several committees and boards for Dell Children's Medical Center, the Texas Child Study Center, The Seton Breast Care Center and the Jewish Federation of Greater Austin. She is a graduate of The University of Texas at Austin and earned her medical degree from The University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio. Epstein has been a philanthropic leader in her community for more than 20 years. She resides in Austin.

**Lawrence H. (Larry) Hayward**

Hayward serves as chairman of the board of directors and CEO of Leslie's Poolmart Inc., the world's largest retailer of swimming pool supplies with nearly 900 stores operating in 35 states across the U.S. Prior to joining Leslie's, he served as president of ABCO Desert Markets, a leading food and drug retailer located in Arizona, as well as president and CEO of Carr Gottstein Foods Co. He lives in Phoenix, Arizona.

**Ebru Ozdemir**

Ozdemir is the founder and chairperson of Limak Investments, the investment arm of Limak Group Companies, whose portfolio includes airports, ports, energy generation, distribution and trading assets. She received her Bachelor of Science in civil engineering from Bogazici University and her master's in international business and finance from Fordham University. She resides in Istanbul, Turkey.

ALLISON SCHAFFER

# He'll save you money and then some

Mattress Mack donates \$500,000 to cancer research

BY ALLISON SCHAFFER

**I**conic Houston businessman Jim McIngvale lives for his family and his work.

"I started Gallery Furniture in 1981. We're still at it 35 years later," he says. "We have fun every day taking care of customers and trying to benefit the community."

Better known as "Mattress Mack," McIngvale opened Gallery Furniture, now a major retailer, with just \$5,000. After he crafted the signature tag line — "Gallery Furniture will save you money!" — business began to boom. Today, Gallery Furniture has expanded to three stores and includes a gigantic furniture warehouse.

Yet one thing has remained the same throughout the years — McIngvale's passion for giving back. Recently, he made a \$500,000 gift to MD Anderson.

"I first heard about MD Anderson while playing football for The University of Texas. Freddie Steinmark went there in 1969," McIngvale recalls. "It was clear that MD Anderson was a very special place."

He credits the institution and John Stroehlein, M.D., chair ad interim, Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, for giving him more time with his father.

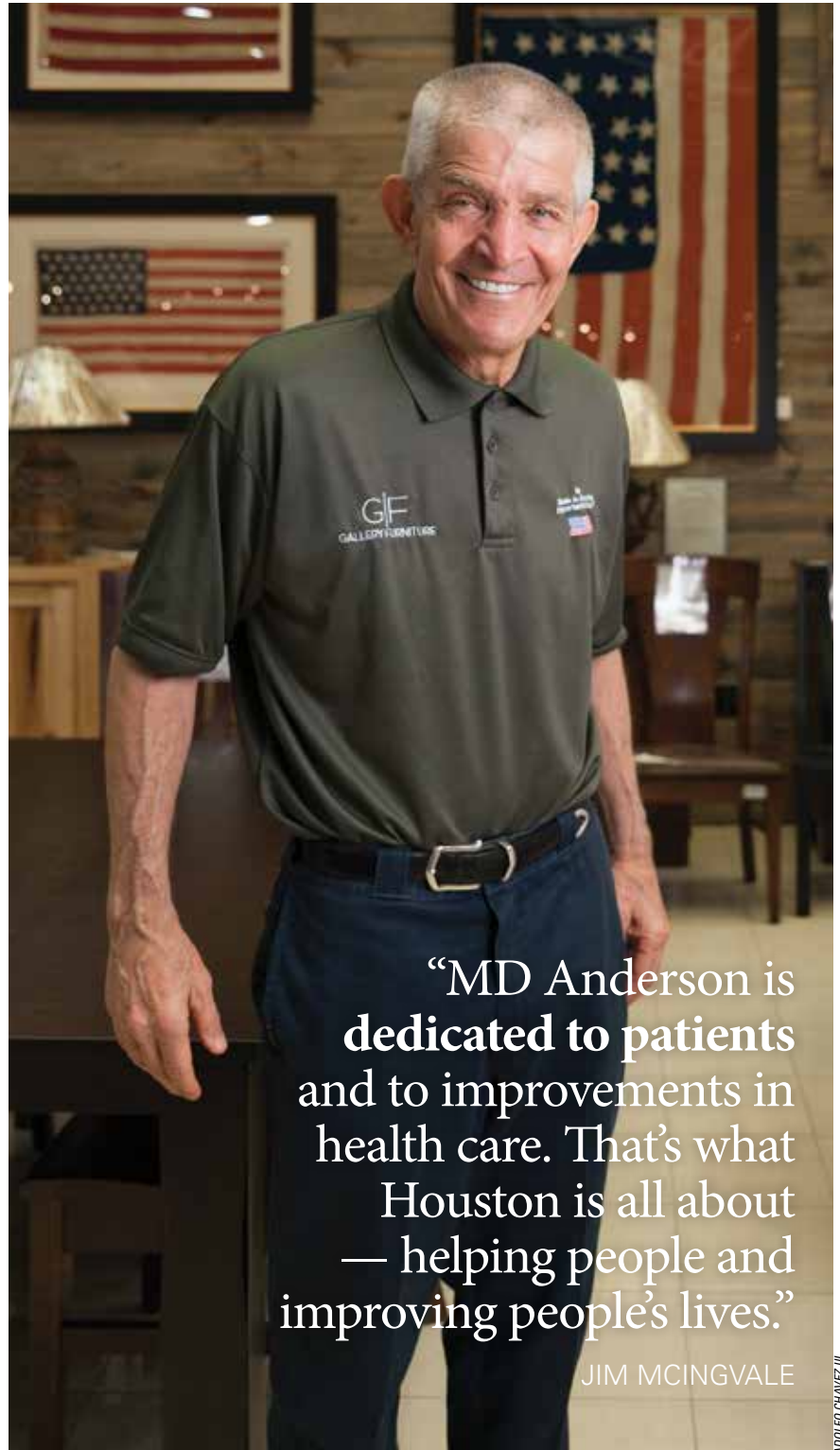
"My father was diagnosed with liver cancer," says McIngvale. "Dr. Stroehlein, along with Dr. Papadopoulos, helped him live an extra 20 years."

Over the years, McIngvale and Stroehlein have grown even closer, with Stroehlein treating many Gallery Furniture employees and even "Mattress Mack" himself. McIngvale's gift will support two unique studies led by Stroehlein. The first clinical trial aims to understand the efficacy of domperidone, a drug used to relieve nausea. The second study focuses on MD Anderson's geriatric population.

"Jim's generosity knows no bounds," says Stroehlein. "His compassion for helping others, whether they be his own employees or complete strangers, will have an impact on cancer patients worldwide for years to come."

MD Anderson saves lives every day, says McIngvale.

"I'm happy to support Dr. Stroehlein and his work because this institution is dedicated to patients and to improvements in health care," he says. "That's what Houston is all about — helping people and improving people's lives."



**"MD Anderson is dedicated to patients and to improvements in health care. That's what Houston is all about — helping people and improving people's lives."**

JIM MCINGVALE

ADOLFO CHAVEZ III



## HOPE FOR ALZHEIMER'S

M.D. Anderson Foundation funds neurodegeneration research

BY ALLISON SCHAFFER

Similar in name, MD Anderson and the M.D. Anderson Foundation have nothing yet everything to do with each other. “There’s no direct connection between the foundation and the cancer center,” says Charles Hall, a senior tax practitioner at Norton Rose Fulbright and president of the M.D. Anderson Foundation. “We started the Texas Medical Center and were instrumental in getting the cancer center here.”

Monroe Dunaway Anderson created the foundation in 1936 with \$300,000. After his death, it received an additional \$19 million.

“(The trustees) read that the Legislature was looking to appropriate \$500,000 for a cancer center,” says Hall. “They said, ‘If you put it in Houston and name it MD Anderson, we’ll match the \$500,000.’”

The M.D. Anderson Foundation recently gave \$250,000 to another burgeoning initiative, the Neurodegeneration Consortium (NDC).

“The NDC is a collaboration among MD Anderson, Baylor College of Medicine, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and the Whitehead Institute,” explains Jim Ray, Ph.D., the NDC’s head of research. “We’re looking for ways to prevent brain disease, like Alzheimer’s, because there’s no cure. By combining the expertise at MD Anderson with leaders in neurology at MIT, the Whitehead Institute and Baylor, we’re hoping to find some treatments.”

Hall’s family has been affected by both cancer and Alzheimer’s, so supporting the NDC seemed a natural fit.

“What we’re always looking to provide is seed money to help spark something small that can grow into something bigger,” says Hall.



The foundation’s support is intended to do just that for the NDC. “The gift has allowed us to bring together people with different backgrounds and different research interests,” says Ray. “Now, they’re working together with a single purpose. Thanks to the M.D. Anderson Foundation, we’ll be able to test our first possible drug this year.”

“The gift has allowed us to bring together people with different backgrounds and different research interests. **Now, they’re working together with a single purpose.**” —JIM RAY, Ph.D.

## GIVING A BAER HUG TO MD ANDERSON

Floridians Elaine and Bobby Baer show their gratitude

BY LESLIE FRIEDMAN

When Elaine Baer of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, was told a routine mammogram showed stage I breast cancer, her doctor suggested a biopsy, which revealed cancer in her lymph nodes. Now facing stage III breast cancer, Elaine and her husband, Bobby, asked the doctor where they should turn for the best care possible. He suggested they go to MD Anderson.

“The treatment process was unbelievable,” says Bobby. “Everyone was so compassionate. From the technicians to the nurses and doctors to everyone in the operating room, it was a total team package.”

Their grandson’s wedding was the month

after they arrived in Houston, so Kelly Hunt, M.D., chair of Breast Surgical Oncology, offered to come in on her day off to do the surgery.

“Dr. Hunt understood our situation, and we can’t tell you how much that meant to us,” says Bobby. “There’s no place better than MD Anderson to be treated, cared for and taken care of.”

Hunt removed 22 malignant lymph nodes, then scheduled chemotherapy and radiation. Wendy Woodward, M.D., associate professor, Radiation Oncology, oversaw her radiation treatment.

“I felt like I was at the best place in the world for my treatment and was 100% confident that I’d get better,” says Elaine, who made it to her grandson’s wedding.

Forever grateful to Hunt, Woodward and the entire team of doctors, nurses, technicians and



staff, the Baers made a \$50,000 donation to MD Anderson to support inflammatory breast cancer (IBC) research.

“IBC is a rare disease that accounts for almost 10% of breast cancer mortality, and gifts like the Baers’ are incredibly impactful to a rare disease program like IBC,” says Woodward. “It can be hard to get support for rare diseases even when the impact is so dramatic. Gifts like these are really making a difference.”

“I felt like I was at the **best place in the world for my treatment** and was 100% confident that I’d get better.” —ELAINE BAER

## About the

## Colorectal Cancer MOON SHOT

Podcast at <http://bit.ly/2ddWzSX>

### LEADERSHIP

- **Scott Kopetz, M.D., Ph.D.**, associate professor, Gastrointestinal Medical Oncology
- **Stanley R. Hamilton, M.D.**, division head, Pathology/Laboratory Medicine
- **Ernest T. Hawk, M.D.**, vice president and division head, Cancer Prevention and Population Sciences

Colorectal cancer is the third most common cancer among men and women in the United States and is the second leading cause of cancer death worldwide. In recent years, there has been an alarming increase in deaths among adults under age 40.

### GOALS

- Reduce colon cancer deaths by 30% over the next 10 years
- Conduct research in early detection and prevention, molecular research and clinical applications, and immunotherapy

#### Early detection through new blood-based screening test, replacing colonoscopy:

Researchers have identified two protein biomarkers in the blood that potentially can warn doctors and patients about early cellular changes that precede cancer development. The team is working to discover more of these markers and will validate those with highest potential before testing them in patients.

#### New classification and treatment of colorectal cancer using integromics:

This involves looking at the RNA, miRNA, methylation, non-coding RNA, histone and microbiome profile of a malignancy to categorize by subtype and thus improve targeted treatment. The ATTACC2 clinical trial is based on this classification of four new major subgroups of colorectal cancer, each being treated with new drug combinations. One subgroup is being treated with the new OXPPOS inhibitor developed at MD Anderson's Institute for Applied Cancer Science.

**Immunotherapy trials:** The team is evaluating whether it is possible to improve patient outcomes by using immunotherapy medications before surgery. Advances are being made toward a personalized cancer "vaccine" to boost the immune system, developed with tissue from the patient's tumor.

**Genetic testing and counseling for young adults:** A third of colorectal cancers diagnosed before age 35 are hereditary. MD Anderson offers genetic testing to find mutations that could cause a hereditary syndrome leading to colorectal cancer, such as Lynch syndrome or familial adenomatous polyposis.

## MOON SHOTS PROGRAM

Results-oriented, patient-driven

Launched in 2012, MD Anderson's Moon Shots Program™ is a comprehensive initiative to significantly reduce cancer deaths and transform cancer care. Moon shot teams pursue innovative projects prioritized for greatest patient impact, and specialized platforms provide infrastructure, systems and strategy. Moon shot efforts will help support all other cancer research at MD Anderson. Funding is from private philanthropy, institutional earnings, competitive research grants and commercialization of new discoveries. The White House Cancer Moonshot, led by Vice President Joe Biden (see page 10), aligns with the program to accelerate progress in the fight against cancer.

**As of Oct. 31, private philanthropic commitments to the program total \$400 million.**

### 13 AREAS OF FOCUS:

- Acute myeloid leukemia/myelodysplastic syndromes
- B-cell lymphoma
- Chronic lymphocytic leukemia
- Colorectal cancer
- Glioblastoma
- High-grade serous ovarian cancer
- High-risk multiple myeloma
- Human papillomavirus-related cancers
- Melanoma
- Lung cancer
- Pancreatic cancer
- Prostate cancer
- Triple-negative breast cancer

## MY MOON SHOT

*AMY SCARBROUGH, of Fayetteville, Arkansas, is a loving mother and a three-year survivor of colorectal cancer (CRC).*

On Dec. 16, 2013, an emergency surgery revealed I had stage IV colon cancer. I was 49, in complete shock and still processing the gravity of the diagnosis. It was a very difficult Christmas, one that could have potentially been our family's last together. As I recuperated at home, a story came on TV about an experimental treatment using the immune system to directly battle CRC. The patients' amazing responses gave me much needed hope.

Family and friends urged me to seek help at MD Anderson. But my cancer continued to metastasize, after three major surgeries and three chemotherapy protocols. Dr. Christopher Garrett suggested I consider participating in an immunotherapy trial that could possibly result in a new targeted therapy for colon cancer. Christine Fark, a research nurse, called me on Dec. 19, 2014, to tell us they had an opening.

After beginning the trial, I received the fantastic news that nivolumab, a checkpoint inhibitor immunotherapy, was enabling my immune system to recognize and attack my cancer. This groundbreaking research of my oncologist, Dr. Michael Overman, and his team, is making colon cancer history that will save or extend lives like mine and



Amy and Troy Scarbrough

COURTESY OF AMY SCARBROUGH

give hope to other CRC patients. As an added blessing, this immunotherapy has not included the side effects that came along with chemotherapy.

Because of the commitment, hard work and innovation that Dr. Overman and his team have invested in CRC research, there is a lot of hope on the horizon. These breakthroughs are helping achieve the Moon Shots Program's goal of reducing CRC deaths by 30% in 10 years.

As the Moon Shots Program focuses on immunotherapy and clinical applications, molecular research, early detection and prevention, the advances being made now have meaningful benefits for those affected by CRC.

*Scarbrough family blog:*  
[hebindsuptheirwounds.wordpress.com](http://hebindsuptheirwounds.wordpress.com)  
*Video interview:* <https://vimeo.com/169560313>

## WHAT'S YOUR MOON SHOT?

Contact us at [promise@mdanderson.org](mailto:promise@mdanderson.org) and tell us why MD Anderson's Moon Shots Program is important to you.



Cancer

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS  
MD Anderson  
Cancer Center

MD Anderson  
Cancer Center

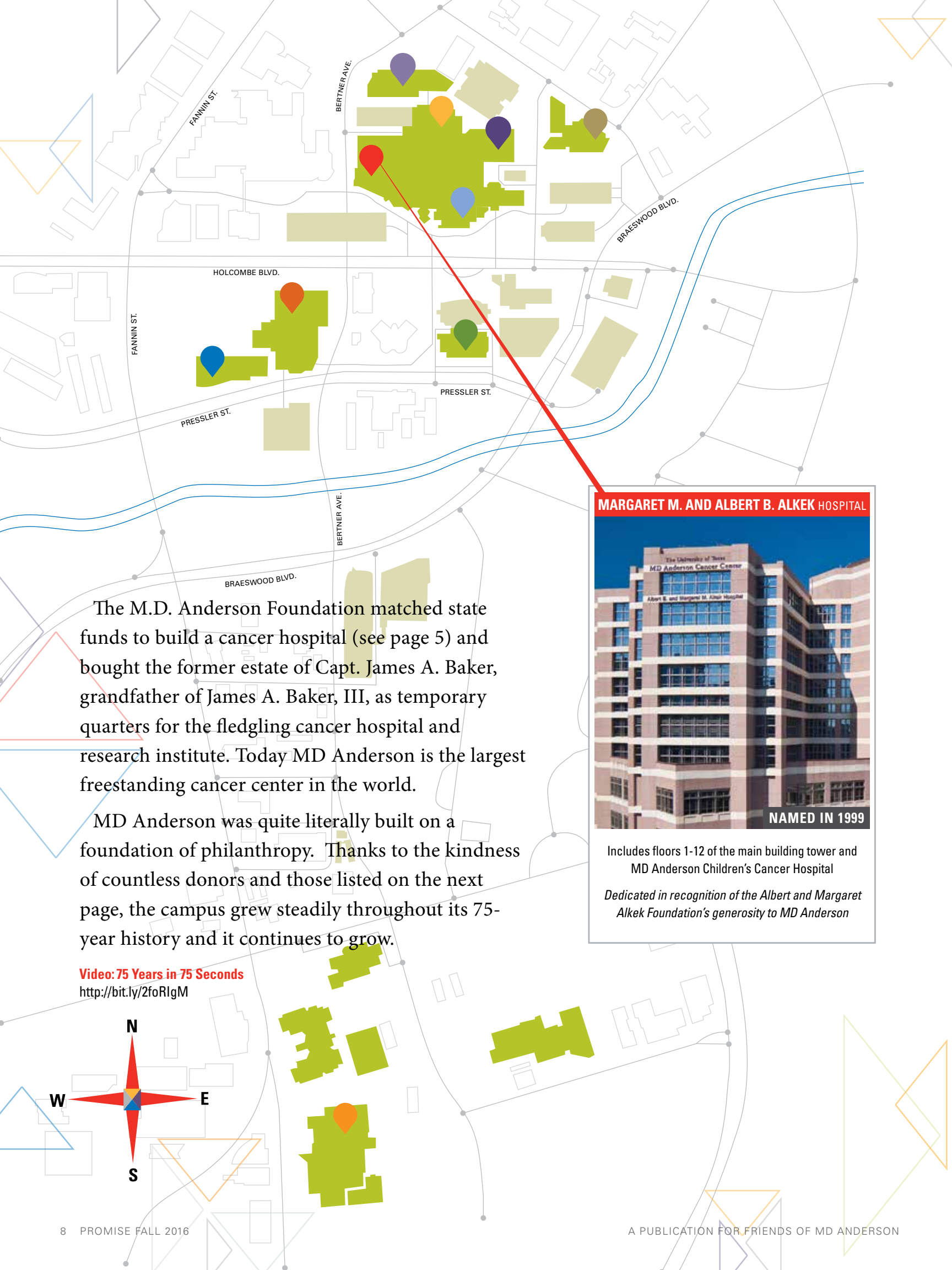
FEATURE



# CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF MAKING CANCER HISTORY®

COMPILED BY ALLISON SCHAFFER

Known for its trademark glimmering pink marble buildings, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center is often described as the “crown jewel” of the Texas Medical Center. The Texas Legislature created MD Anderson in 1941 as a part of The University of Texas System.



The M.D. Anderson Foundation matched state funds to build a cancer hospital (see page 5) and bought the former estate of Capt. James A. Baker, grandfather of James A. Baker, III, as temporary quarters for the fledgling cancer hospital and research institute. Today MD Anderson is the largest freestanding cancer center in the world.

MD Anderson was quite literally built on a foundation of philanthropy. Thanks to the kindness of countless donors and those listed on the next page, the campus grew steadily throughout its 75-year history and it continues to grow.

**Video: 75 Years in 75 Seconds**  
<http://bit.ly/2foRlGM>

**MARGARET M. AND ALBERT B. ALKEK HOSPITAL**



**NAMED IN 1999**

Includes floors 1-12 of the main building tower and MD Anderson Children's Cancer Hospital  
*Dedicated in recognition of the Albert and Margaret Alkek Foundation's generosity to MD Anderson*





Basic research building  
Dedicated in honor of Percy and Ruth Jones



Includes the basement, ground floor and floors 1-5 of the North Wing of MD Anderson's main building  
Dedicated in memory of Louis and Amelia Gimbel in recognition of Mose A. Gimbel's generosity to MD Anderson



Includes the main hospital's Emergency Center and inpatient care units  
Dedicated in recognition of M.G. and Lillie A. Johnson's generosity to MD Anderson



Provides laboratory space for faculty and staff  
Dedicated in honor of R.E. "Bob" Smith in recognition of Vivian L. Smith's generosity to MD Anderson



The epicenter of cancer prevention  
Dedicated in recognition of the Dan L. Duncan family's generosity to MD Anderson



Home to MD Anderson Cancer Center UTHealth Graduate School and dozens of laboratories  
Dedicated in recognition of George and Cynthia Mitchell's generosity to MD Anderson



Outpatient services clinics  
Dedicated in recognition of Lowry and Peggy Mays' generosity to MD Anderson



Houses faculty and departmental staff offices, the Education Center and the Research Medical Library  
Dedicated in recognition of T. Boone Pickens' generosity to MD Anderson



Includes laboratories and offices designed to integrate delivery of basic and clinical research and includes some of MD Anderson's newest laboratories and offices  
Dedicated in recognition of the Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Foundation's generosity to MD Anderson



MD Anderson's 75th anniversary gala on Nov. 10 raised \$14 million and drew 2,000 guests for a star-studded dinner and remarks by UT System Chancellor Bill McRaven; James A. Baker, III; Craig Sager; the Cogdill family; and Vice President Joe Biden, leader of the White House Cancer Moonshot.

FCS PHOTOS



Bob Schieffer and Gerald McRaney, masters of ceremonies



Ronald DePinho, M.D.; Jill Biden, Ph.D.; Vice President Joe Biden; and W.K. Alfred Yung, M.D., at the announcement of the Beau Biden Chair for Brain Cancer Research



Beth Gibbens, Mark and Elizabeth Epley, Laurie and Pierre Lapeyre



Casey, AnnMarie and Mark Cogdill as Ty Cogdill reads a letter of gratitude



Ronald DePinho, M.D., and guests applauding former President George H.W. Bush.



Reba McEntire

UT System Chancellor Bill McRaven and Pete Coneway



Tom Johnson and Wayne Gibbens





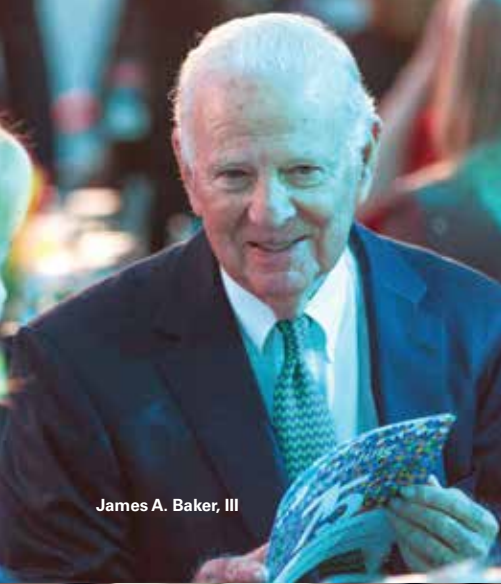
Muzaffar Qazilbash, M.D.;  
Craig Sager;  
Naveen Pemmaraju, M.D.



UT System Executive Vice  
Chancellor for Health Affairs  
Ray Greenberg, M.D., Ph.D.



Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner, with  
Ronald DePinho, M.D., declaring  
MD Anderson Cancer Center Week



James A. Baker, III



David and Estela Cockrell



Joan Schnitzer Levy, Melvyn Wolff, Shirley Toomim,  
Sheridan Williams, Cyvia Wolff



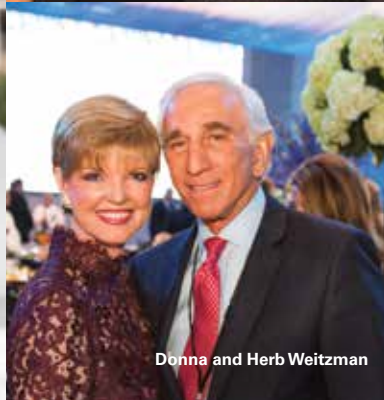
Nancy and Rich Kinder



Anne Mendelsohn, Lyda Hill,  
Nancy Lewis



This temporary structure underwritten  
by Cooper University Health Care was  
the scene of a week of events celebrating  
MD Anderson's 75th anniversary.



Donna and Herb Weitzman



Nancy Loeffler,  
Lance and Ashley Loeffler



Tom and Donnell Rushing,  
Stephanie and Rusty Linkous



# GETTING TO KNOW Jim Mulva

BY SARAH WATSON

Jim Mulva began his two-year term as chair of the MD Anderson Cancer Center Board of Visitors on Sept. 1. Mulva was CEO of ConocoPhillips from 2002 until he retired in 2012. He began his energy career at Phillips Petroleum in 1973. Mulva and his wife of 47 years, Miriam, are members of the Anderson Assembly, an organization honoring donors who have made lifetime commitments of \$1 million or more to MD Anderson. The Miriam and Jim Mulva Conference Center at MD Anderson is named in recognition of their \$5 million gift to support melanoma research.

**What are your goals as BOV chair?**

The institution and the BOV have been incredibly successful. Accordingly, it is important to continue our successful BOV model and do all we can to support MD Anderson through our philanthropic support and advice. The role of our BOV is advisory in nature. It is important to look for opportunities to make our BOV even more relevant in helping Dr. DePinho and his team meet the challenges of cancer and take advantage of opportunities to maintain our position as the No. 1 institution for cancer research and patient care.

**What was one of your best career moves?**

Moving to Phillips Petroleum to start a nearly 40-year career in the oil and gas industry. Phillips gave me the opportunity to grow in an industry that is noble and vitally important to economic growth and improving living standards. I was able to travel and better appreciate what is so special about the U.S.

**Why become an MD Anderson advocate?**

Being a UT Austin graduate, I was aware of the

UT System and MD Anderson's special place in it. I was proud to say that the UT System had the best cancer research hospital in the world. Of most importance to our family, MD Anderson treated our son's melanoma cancer. It is important to give back, and when Harry Longwell asked me to succeed him as chair of the Clinical Operations Committee while he successfully chaired the recent capital campaign, I accepted. I learned a great deal, working with Dr. Tom Burke, and better understood the uniqueness and commitment of the entire MD Anderson team.

**How do you like to spend your spare time?**

In many ways it doesn't seem as if I have retired. I spend a great deal of time on public company boards and charitable initiatives. I enjoy this and as it's said, "You stay young by keeping your mind in the game." I do have some spare time, and I like flying airplanes and maybe some golf, although the golf is more an aspiration at this point. Many retired people like to travel. This is not particularly high on my list due to the many years of travel when working in the oil industry.



Jim Mulva

ADOLFO CHAVEZ III

**Born:** Oshkosh, Wisconsin  
**Grew up:** Green Bay, Wisconsin  
**Resides:** Austin, Texas and Green Bay, Wisconsin  
**Degrees:** Bachelor of Business Administration and Master of Business Administration, The University of Texas at Austin McCombs School of Business  
**Military Service:** Navy ROTC University of Texas; U.S. Navy 1969-73 (lieutenant, Bahrain Island, Arabian Gulf, and Navy Finance Center, Cleveland, Ohio)  
**Career Base:** Bartlesville, Oklahoma; London; Houston  
**Board of Visitors Service (since 2003):** BOV chair (current)  
 Chair Elect (2014-2016)  
 Vice Chair (2012-2014)  
 Officers Committee (2014-present)  
 Executive Committee (2014)  
 Membership and Board Development Committee (2014)  
 Industry Initiative Energy Committee (2013)  
 Chair, Clinical Operations Advisory Group (2009)

**What's most important in life?**

First, my faith. Second is family and friends. And third is to try to give back, as we all know how blessed we have been.

**SPOTLIGHT**

## PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

Survivor Mark Roling applies golf wisdom to cancer

BY SARAH WATSON

Cancer survivor Mark Roling, a longtime NBC Sports/Golf Channel analyst, likens cancer treatment to a successful golf shot: "It's all about planning and execution."

As guest speaker at this year's Making Cancer History Seminar in Atlanta (see page 13), Roling reflected on the treatment he received at MD Anderson's Proton Therapy Center (PTC) under the direction of Steven Frank, M.D., professor, Radiation Oncology, and PTC medical director.

"The planning was perfect. The execution was

impeccable," says Roling.

In August 2015, Roling, of Maui, Hawaii, faced a potentially career-ending diagnosis of stage IV salivary gland cancer. He took a leave of absence for surgery at the University of Chicago to remove the rare malignancy from his left cheek area, to be followed by proton



Mark Roling, with wife, Debi, at myCancerConnection's annual Survivorship Conference, where they were interviewed by Fox 26's Melissa Wilson

NICK DE LA TORRE/FCS PHOTOS

therapy treatment at MD Anderson. By January 2016, he was back on the job at the PGA TOUR's Hyundai Tournament of Champions in Maui.

Frank's treatment plan specified 33 proton



## SURVIVORS SAY

*Wayne Gibbens has been a member of the MD Anderson Cancer Center Board of Visitors (BOV) since 1981. He and his wife, Beth, live in Middleburg, Virginia.*

**I**n the late fall of 1962, life was amazingly good for Beth and me. She was 23 years old and held a coveted position teaching high school English and journalism in the Austin public school system.

I was 26, serving my second term as a member of the Texas Legislature. We were euphorically in love, became engaged and set a wedding date for June 1963. Weeks later, our dreams were shattered with the crushing diagnosis that Beth had “terminal” cancer — melanoma. We were told, ‘Beth will not likely live until June,’ a mere six months away.

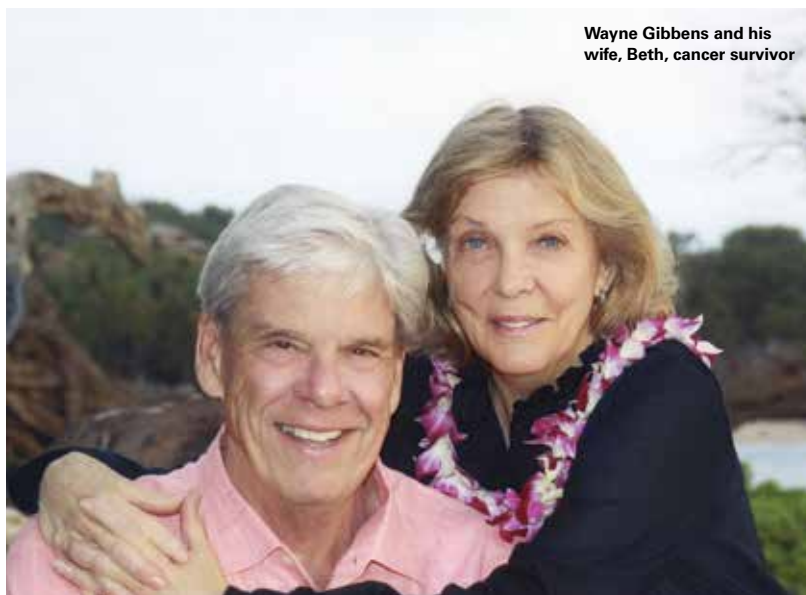
We felt like we had been hit by a truck, utterly devastated, heads spinning, searching for hope and grasping for help. From my work in the Legislature, I knew of MD Anderson. Beth’s mother and I made arrangements to get Beth to MD Anderson immediately.

Dr. Lee Clark was waiting curbside for us when we arrived at the hospital. At that time, the hospital consisted of but a single, small, beautiful pink granite building. Dr. Clark opened the car door and took Beth’s hand, and we walked into the hospital, where Beth remained for months.

We spent our engagement with Beth at MD Anderson and me in Austin, commuting to Houston on weekends and as many weeknights as possible. Dr. Clark was amazing. Little wonder he is referred to as the ‘legendary Dr. Lee Clark.’ He was our inspiration, our ‘rock.’ From that beginning, he became our treasured friend. The entire MD Anderson team was loving, caring, supportive and dedicated.

While the diagnosis that we were given in Austin seemed to be correct, the odds were defied and Beth was released a couple of weeks before our June wedding date. We married as planned.

A tough beginning. But this story is ultimately a happy one. Strong relationships are often forged in adversity. From coping with adversity comes strength, perspective and appreciation of what really matters — life itself, each other, family, friends and the good,



Wayne Gibbens and his wife, Beth, cancer survivor

PHOTOS COURTESY OF BETH AND WAYNE GIBBENS



Mark, Sam, Elizabeth and John Epley

decent people who, through the years, enrich life.

Fifty-three years later, Beth and I are still happily married, and grateful beyond description for God’s blessings. While it was considered unlikely that Beth could have children, odds again were defied and we have a precious daughter, Elizabeth Epley, now an active and productive BOV member, with a special interest in pediatric cancer. Elizabeth and her husband Mark have given us two

*Continued on page 15*

therapy procedures. Thanks to thorough planning upfront, only 31 were necessary.

After the treatment, recalls Roling, Frank’s assistant said, “We’ll see you in 10 weeks.”

Roling and his wife, Debi, who had relocated from Maui to Houston for two months for the treatments, headed home, returning to MD Anderson in January for new scans. They were incredulous to receive the best news: NED (no evidence of disease).

“It didn’t seem possible. We went back in April, and again, NED. Three weeks ago, NED. That couldn’t have happened anywhere else but at MD Anderson,” he says.

*Video: [youtube.com/MDAnderson](https://www.youtube.com/MDAnderson)*

### MAKING CANCER HISTORY® IN ATLANTA

*Approximately 100 supporters and cancer survivors attended MD Anderson’s second annual Making Cancer History® Seminar in Atlanta, Sept. 21 in Buckhead. Among the guests were MD Anderson Cancer Center Board of Visitors members Walter Driver and Rabbi Alvin Sugarman and Advance Team member Kasey Asarch. On hand to discuss recent treatment, research, prevention and education strategies advanced by the Moon Shots Program™:*

**Steven Frank, M.D.**, professor, Radiation Oncology; medical director, MD Anderson’s Proton Therapy Center

**Joxel Garcia, M.D.**, executive director, cancer prevention and control platform; Moon Shots Program’s leadership team member

**Jeffrey Gershenwald, M.D.**, professor, Surgical Oncology and Cancer Biology; medical director, Melanoma and Skin Center; co-leader, Melanoma Moon Shot

**William Wierda, M.D., Ph.D.**, professor, Leukemia; co-leader, Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia Moon Shot



ISTOCKPHOTO.COM/MARGOULLATPHOTOS

## Teenage baker makes

# Sweet donation

Emily Caplan raises \$10,000 through cookbook sales

Emily Caplan, 13, prepares a recipe from a cookbook inspired by the care her grandmother received at MD Anderson.

BY LESLIE FRIEDMAN

From brownies to cookies, cakes to breads, pies to tarts, Emily Caplan of Dallas has always loved to bake. So it was no surprise when, at age 13, she dedicated her bat mitzvah project to creating a desserts cookbook and donating the proceeds to MD Anderson.

Drawing from relatives, friends and Emily's own collection, "Baked by Emily" contains 53 recipes of delectable goodies, along with color photos of each. She chose MD Anderson as beneficiary in honor of her late grandmother, Genie Weitzman, who was a sarcoma patient at MD Anderson for nine years before succumbing to the disease in 2009. Emily's grandfather, Herb Weitzman,

also of Dallas, has been a member of the MD Anderson Cancer Center Board of Visitors since 2007.

"This book is in my grandmother's honor," says Emily. "MD Anderson was so good to her that I wanted to give back through the sale of my cookbooks."

Emily and her mom, Michelle, first ordered 100 books, unsure of what to expect. Through word of mouth and Facebook, sales jumped to more than 350 books, surpassing Emily's original goal of \$1,500, or 50 books.

Michelle says the family is grateful to MD Anderson.

"Through new trials, new research and new drugs, we think MD Anderson



COURTESY OF MICHELLE CAPLAN

elongated my mother's life," she says.

Emily says the best feeling was adding all of the checks for her \$30 cookbook, and making a \$10,000 donation to MD Anderson toward cancer research.

## 2016 ROGERS AWARD HONORS EXCELLENCE IN CANCER PREVENTION

Educator, clinician and researcher helps advance tobacco cessation

BY LESLIE FRIEDMAN



Maher Karam-Hage, M.D.

**Maher Karam-Hage, M.D.**, professor, Behavioral Science and Psychiatry, and associate medical director of MD Anderson's Tobacco Treatment Program, is the recipient of the Julie and Ben Rogers Award for Excellence, now in its 30th year.

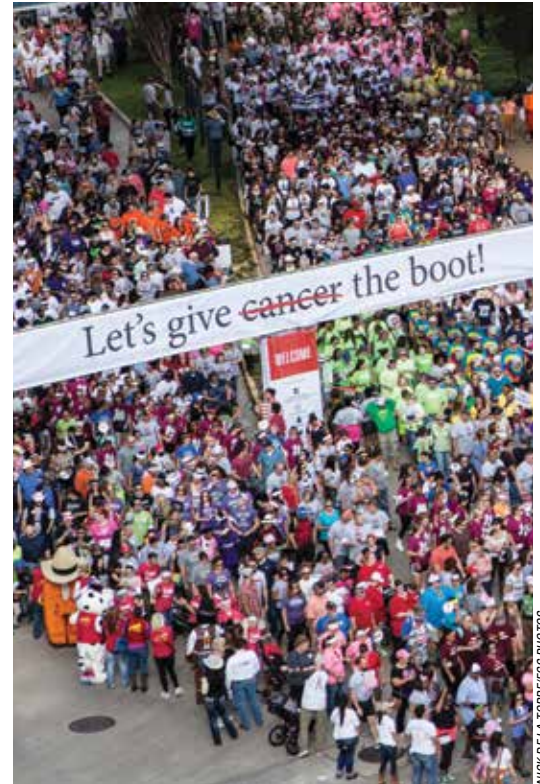
Karam-Hage, who has helped thousands become smoke-free, received \$15,000 and a framed certificate at a ceremony in September. The event was led by MD Anderson President Ronald DePinho, M.D., and Regina Rogers, an MD Anderson Cancer Center Board of Visitors member since 1990, who established the award in 1987 in honor of her parents.

"Winning this award is so humbling, and I appreciate and thank Ms. Rogers for it," says Karam-Hage. "It stimulates me and our team to continue our efforts in smoking cessation. We're proud to be part of the mission to end cancer."

Four finalists received \$1,500: Banu Arun, M.D., professor, Breast Medical Oncology; Karen Basen-Engquist, Ph.D., professor, Behavioral Science; Roy Chemaly, M.D., professor, Infectious Diseases, Infection Control and Employee Health; and Betty Spears, program coordinator, Dermatology.

The award signifies the Rogers family's relationship with MD Anderson, dating to 1960, when Regina's brother was diagnosed with thyroid cancer.

"It's been gratifying to have a 56-year relationship with MD Anderson," she says. "Over the years, I've seen it grow and flourish and become a leader in research, treatment and prevention, with the most dedicated doctors."



NICK DE LA TORRE/FCS PHOTOS

The inaugural Boot Walk to End Cancer™, a 1.2-mile walk to "give cancer the boot," drew approximately 7,000 cancer survivors, families and friends and raised more than \$905,000. Proceeds will support MD Anderson's mission to end cancer.



# Living Legend luncheon in Dallas honors ‘father of aerobics’

## Annual event raises more than \$730,000 for MD Anderson’s Moon Shots Program™

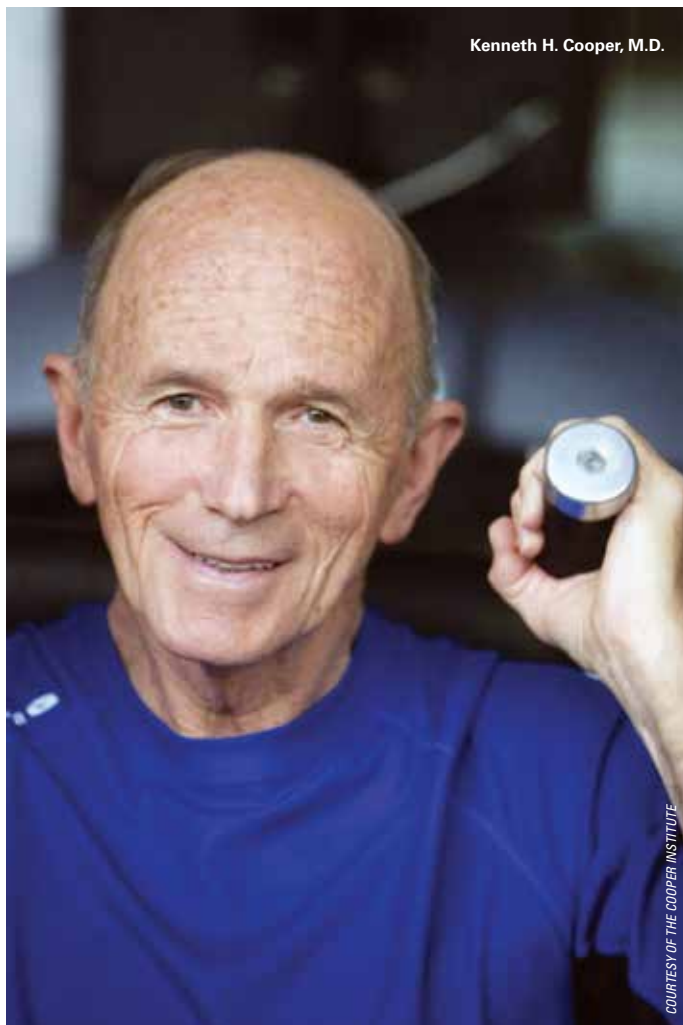
BY SARAH WATSON

**E**xercise your brain. Socialize. Avoid inactivity. Sleep at least seven hours a night. Eat plenty of fruits and vegetables.

Kenneth H. Cooper, M.D., shared these and other nuggets of healthful advice with MD Anderson supporters from the Dallas-Fort Worth area at the Sept. 28 A Conversation With a Living Legend® at the Hilton Anatole. The 85-year-old “father of aerobics” and pioneer in preventive medicine was engaged and energetic throughout an onstage interview led by the Honorable Jeanne Phillips, senior vice president for Corporate Affairs and International Relations for Hunt Consolidated Inc. and president of Hunt Global Partnerships.

Under the direction of event chairs Beverly and Robert Nichols, the luncheon raised more than \$730,000 for MD Anderson’s Moon Shots Program. Presenting sponsors were Andrews Distributing and Lyda Hill.

In addition to the “conversation,” guests were treated to a video greeting from Cooper’s longtime friend, veteran broadcast journalist Tom Brokaw, and compelling remarks by MD Anderson Cancer Center Board of Visitors member Tom Rushing, of Houston, a pancreatic cancer survivor who thanked the honoree and his colleagues at The Cooper Clinic for the early detection that led to his diagnosis eight years ago.



Kenneth H. Cooper, M.D.

In 1968, Cooper coined the word “aerobics,” prompting an international physical fitness movement. He is chairman of seven health and wellness companies and The Cooper Institute, a research and education nonprofit, with a second aerobics center at Craig Ranch in McKinney, Texas.

Since the event originated in 1990, A Conversation With a Living Legend® in North Texas has raised more than \$16.18 million for MD Anderson. Including the Dallas-Fort Worth area funds raised, this successful format has generated more than \$33.8 million through events in Washington, D.C.; Las Vegas, Nevada; Atlanta, Georgia; Houston; and San Antonio.

### **SURVIVORS SAY** **WAYNE GIBBENS**



extraordinary grandsons, Sam and John.

MD Anderson is an important part of our lives, individually and as families — Gibbens and Epley. Nominated to the BOV by my longtime friend Larry Temple, I serve on the Executive Committee and have chaired others over the years. Beth and I have chaired several significant MD Anderson events, among them the institution’s first event in our nation’s capital, A Conversation With Sissy Spacek, with Bob Schieffer interviewing. Other events followed, with our constant friend and supporter Bob Schieffer, along with others such as Harry Belafonte and Tom Hanks. Teamed with our great friends Edwina and Tom Johnson (a BOV member from Atlanta), we’ve chaired A Conversation With a Living Legend® events at the Kennedy Center with the participation of such fighters-of-cancer as Jim Baker, Colin Powell, Bill Clinton, Tom Brokaw and, of course, Bob Schieffer.

The connection to MD Anderson that Beth and I share now spans a period of time greater than two-thirds of the institution’s existence.

Beginning with Dr. Clark, it’s been a privilege to have as friends the MD Anderson presidents and their wives: Mickey and Andi LeMaistre, John and Anne Mendelsohn and Ron DePinho and Lynda Chin.

MD Anderson is the best in the world! It is made so by the dedicated and wondrous people who work at every level, bottom to top. It is a place of hope and heroism. All who come are the beneficiaries of the heroic work of the MD Anderson team of doctors, scientists, volunteers and employees at every level. We are, together, Making Cancer History®.

*Promise invites cancer survivors to share their reflections. Email [promise@mdanderson.org](mailto:promise@mdanderson.org).*

# PROMISE FALL 2016

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## iPROMISE



PHOTO: ISTOCKPHOTO.COM / IPEKATA

*The carefree days of summer are anything but for Lily Deagan, 11, and Lucy Keith, 10, of Victoria, Texas. The two friends who share a love of sports and a passion for helping others decided to open a lemonade stand this past summer. The goal? Raise money for cancer research. In a few hours, the girls raised \$220 for breast cancer research at MD Anderson, a place they say is near and dear to their hearts.*

### LILY DEAGAN

Lucy and I were trying to raise money for a good cause. Since people in both of our families have had cancer — many of my family members have died from it and some are still suffering — we decided that we wanted to do a lemonade stand and donate all of the money to MD Anderson for cancer research. I want to be a part of helping find a cure for cancer, too. Lucy and I want to try to help find a cure to save people's lives. With this money, I hope MD Anderson can find a cure.

### LUCY KEITH

My mom had breast cancer and was treated at MD Anderson. She is doing great because of all the doctors there. When we decided to do a lemonade stand this summer, we knew we wanted to raise money for MD Anderson. I really hope they find a cure for cancer. To



Lucy Keith, left, and Lily Deagan, serve up lemonade and smiles for cancer research.

COURTESY OF MICHELLE DEAGAN

everyone at MD Anderson — thank you for what you do. My mom is doing great because of you. And to all the patients still there — keep fighting.