

The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio

ENDOWMENT PROFILE

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Holly Professorship: A Physician's Heart of Gratitude

JAMES L. HOLLY, M.D., of Beaumont, Texas, feels a deep sense of gratitude and humility for the honor of being a physician. In a 2004 essay, Dr. Holly reflected upon the climax of the movie "Saving Private Ryan":

Tremulously, Private James Ryan, now in his seventies, approached the headstone of Captain John Miller, who gave his life that Ryan might live. In perhaps the most poignant moment in a great film, tears streamed down his face, as Ryan plaintively said to his wife, "Tell me that I have lived a good life; tell me that I have been a good man." The sacrifice of others imposed upon Private Ryan a debt only a noble and honorable life could repay.

Dr. Holly works and lives with a similar passion and a purpose — to uphold the sacred trust of caring for others. He credits his medical career to the providence of God, his parents, his devoted wife of 47 years, Carolyn, and the School of Medicine at The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. His professors, mentors, classmates and colleagues shaped the physician he would become; he also credits public support of medical education. As a 1973 graduate of the School of Medicine, Dr. Holly was honored to serve as President of the school's Alumni Association from 2006 to 2010 because of his love and appreciation for the educational experience he received.

This year a \$250,000 gift from Dr. and Mrs. Holly and the Southeast Texas Medical Associates (SETMA) established the *Dr. and Mrs. James L. Holly Distinguished Professorship*. The endowment supports the work of Carlos R. Jaén, M.D., Ph.D., professor and chair of the Department of Family and Community Medicine, who is leading a model of patient-centered primary care and education through UT Medicine San Antonio, the clinical practice of the School of Medicine.

The Holly Professorship also promotes interdepartmental and interdisciplinary education, collaboration and practice-model development between the departments of Medicine, Family and Community Medicine, and Pediatrics, and the School of Nursing's advanced practice programs. Dr. Holly is a founding partner of SETMA, an organization dedicated to providing quality and cost-effective health care to patients in Southeast



Carolyn and James L. Holly, M.D.

Texas through multispecialty, patient-centered clinics. The Holly fund is fostering the patient "medical home" concept in today's students.

Dr. Holly's care of a patient, Wayne A. Reaud, chairman and founder of the Beaumont Foundation of America, inspired Mr. Reaud to make a generous gift to update the Health Science Center Auditorium in honor of Dr. and Mrs. Holly. The traditional site for White Coat Ceremonies and other events is now named the Dr. and Mrs. James L. Holly Auditorium.

Dr. Holly received his M.D. when the School of Medicine was very young. "The school has seen 43 years of incredible progress," he said. "Dr. F. Carter Pannill was my dean when I started. When Dr. Henrich (William L. Henrich, M.D., MACP, now president of the Health Science Center) came in as dean in 2006, I got involved. I am totally sold on our school — the quality of the students is amazing."

President Henrich reflected on the long-term impact of the endowment: "The legacy of the Dr. and Mrs. James L. Holly Distinguished Professorship, and the inspiration of this outstanding alumnus and his honorable and noble life of service to his patients, will influence the students and faculty of the School of Medicine for generations to come and carry forward the promise of the UT Health Science Center to make lives better."

If you'd like more information about how to start an endowment, please contact:

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