Jane & Bud Smith: Hope for the Human Brain

The Center for BrainHealth presented Jane and Bud Smith with its highest honor, the Legacy Award, on October 9, 2013 at The George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum.

The Center for BrainHealth recognizes the pioneering spirit of individuals whose vision and dedication to brain research enable the Center to explore the vast potential of the human mind.

“My goal in creating the Center for BrainHealth was to make a difference in people’s lives through innovative research,” said Dr. Sandra R. Chapman, founder and chief director of the Center for BrainHealth and Dee Wiyi Distinguished University Chair. Jane and Bud Smith were instrumental in laying the foundation for our future to truly make an impact not only in Dallas, but across the country and around the world. With their leadership, we are on our way to making world brain health a reality.”

The Smiths graciously gifted the funds necessary to endow a chair for the Center’s medical science director, Dr. John Hart, Jr., and have become actively involved in the Center’s Leadership Council.

“We put much focus on our physical health, which is necessary, but to reach our potential and the next level of performance, we must turn our attention to our brains,” said Jane Smith. “The Center for BrainHealth has developed and scientifically proven training and treatment programs to make our brains work smarter and more efficiently, programs that open the door to a new world of opportunity for those diagnosed with brain injury or brain disease.”

“The Center for BrainHealth is helping children who are struggling in school, veterans adjusting to civilian life, people who have had concussions or other brain injury and those of us who are simply aging,” said Bud Smith. “The frontier of brain science is exploding, and so many things can be done now to help strengthen each of our brains. The good news is that the epicenter of all is right here in Dallas.”

Rita and Henry Horvitzline chaired the Legacy Dinner. The host committee included Ruth and Ken Altshuler, Nancy and Randy Best, Tom Brinkley, Ed Cox, Nancy Bedman, Gliny and John Evich, Gerald Wallace Hall, Susan and Boots Newlin and Mary Watson and Wallace Stone.

“Henry and I feel very honored to be able to recognize Jane and Bud Smith in such a special way, two great visionaries who invested in the Center for BrainHealth when it was in its infancy,” said Rita Horvitzline. “Dr. Chapman demonstrated great courage when she pushed the envelope on brain health research nearly a decade ago and now the world is trying to catch up!”

Past BrainHealth Legacy Award recipients include Dianne Cash, Debbie Francis, T. Boone Pickens, James Huffines, Dee Wyly, Daryl Johnston and Lee Roy Jordan.

Major donors include:

$50,000 Mrs. Charles J. Wyly, Jr. (Mr. Charles J. Wyly III)
$25,000 Patty and James Huffines/PlainsCapital Bank
$15,000 Ruth and Ken Altshuler
$10,000 Emly Lou and Jerry Bailey, Nancy and Randy Best, Lucy and Henry Billington, Tiffany and Patrick Boyce, Edwin J. Cox, Rita and Henry Horvitzline, Gene and Jerry Jones, Tollesson Wealth Management, Lisa and Kenny Troutt

FÊTE PHOTOS
When Rita Hortenstine’s father was diagnosed in 1980, Alzheimer’s disease (AD) was virtually unheard of and the only entirely conclusive diagnosis was autopsy. Treatment options and caregiver resources were nonexistent and in many instances financial bankruptcy for supporting family members was highly likely. Since then, the disease has become one of the fastest growing healthcare concerns worldwide, currently affecting approximately 5.4 million Americans with Texas ranking third in the nation for number of cases. The financial impact to the lone star state alone exceeds $11 billion per year.

Henry & Rita Hortenstine, Legacy Award Dinner Co-Chairs

“Our family was blessed to be able to care for our father in his home during the 18 years that he lived with Alzheimer’s. The experience has been the inspiration for my volunteer efforts for the past 15 years,” explained Rita.

Interested in shaping public policy, she served as a national voice for the Alzheimer’s Association national board, championing the National Alzheimer’s Project Act in Washington D.C., which was signed into law in 2011. Since then, Governor Rick Perry has reappointed her to serve her second term on the Texas Council on Alzheimer’s and Related Disorders where she narrowed her focus and set her sights on positioning Texas as a national leader in the fight against AD and creating an infrastructure to meet the growing healthcare crisis.

“Discovering the Center for BrainHealth and hearing its founder, Dr. Sandra Chapman, speak in person about the brain and mental health was the inspiration to commit to this mission,” said Rita. “The opportunity to combine forces arose on a grand scale while creating the 2010-2015 Texas State Plan. Along with Dr. Dell FIFA of the Cooper Clinic and Dr. Chapman, Rita co-chairs the Preventative Goal for the comprehensive blueprint that uniquely addresses the unmet challenges of Alzheimer’s disease head-on while also aggressively promoting healthy cognitive aging. “Texas is the only state to have a preventative goal,” explained Rita. “Two mavericks, Dr. Kenneth Cooper and Dr. Chapman, influenced its development based on their philosophy of promoting healthy living by keeping physically and mentally active. As part of the plan, the Center for BrainHealth will develop activities that maintain healthy brains, achieve peak cognitive performance and reduce the risk for Alzheimer’s disease.”

“Rita Hortenstine is a force of nature dedicated to forging an important roadmap that will help hundreds of thousands of Tennesseans facing Alzheimer’s disease,” asserted Dr. Chapman. “We are so grateful for Rita’s forbearance. She is working tirelessly to extend and enhance cognitive ability and improve overall quality of life for millions of Americans.”

LEGACY LUMINARIES

Ruth & Ken Abrahamsen (Recipient Committeew) with Dee& Harold Holdren

David Boppaian, Bryan & Lucy Ward, Pamela Borchert, Carl Moore

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

The following community leaders are the latest Board members serving as Center for BrainHealth ambassadors.

Douglas Campbell

Ballard Mattieket

Ken Clements

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Steve Harris, TAG Agression

Sally & Morris Houlahan

Barbara Scott

Sally Hufnagr

Nancy Kastie & Raabj Gupta

Tannah Martin & Don Miller

Mike Silkman


The Emotiv & Jerry Baldridge Lecture: Geoffrey Ling, M.D., Ph.D. February 4 | Imagining the Future of Brain Restoration

The J. Baxter Brinkmann Lecture: James D. Maas, Ph.D. February 11 | Sleep For Success! Everything You Wanted to Know About Sleep, But Were Too Tired to Ask!

The Greystone Foundation Lecture: Tali Sharot, Ph.D. February 18 | The Optimism Bias

The Amelia & Kyle Harvey Lecture: Francesca Felkey, Ph.D. February 25 | Addiction: Why the Brain Wants What It Wants

Tickets go on sale December 1 • Visit CenterForBrainHealth.org

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