Department is Beneficiary of Second Million Dollar Gift From Dr. and Mrs. Hamilton

Dr. Ralph S. Hamilton and his wife, Barbara, have generously presented the Methodist Hospitals Foundation and the Department of Ophthalmology of UT Memphis with a one million dollar gift to support ophthalmic research. This gift follows upon another one million dollar gift given by the Hamiltons in 1994 to establish an endowed professorship in Ophthalmology at the College of Medicine.

The gift from Dr. and Mrs. Hamilton will be used to expand ongoing research projects of individual researchers and to facilitate collaborations among basic and clinical investigators through the use of shared equipment, establishment of common facilities and support of joint trainees. The Department has experienced a period of active development and expansion over the past two years, under the leadership of Dr. Barrett G. Haik, who holds the Hamilton Professorship. This gift will be used to sustain growth and productivity of Department members.

Dr. Hamilton is a Professor of Ophthalmology at UT Memphis, and has practiced at Methodist Hospital since 1959, serving as Chair of the Department of Ophthalmology at Methodist since 1976. The gift was announced and the Hamiltons honored at a ceremony at the University Club on December 17, 1997. Addressing the assembly were Maurice W. Elliot, President and CEO of Methodist Health Hospitals Foundation, Kevin F. Roper, President of the Methodist Hospitals Foundation, William R. Rice, Chancellor of UT Memphis and Dr. Robert L. Summitt, Dean of the College of Medicine of UT Memphis.