

# Intermountain Research and Medical Foundation

## HONORS

### Donald B. Doty, MD and Cheryl J. Doty — *Legacy of Life Award*

Don and Cheryl were raised in southern California. They attended the same high school, but did not associate until one summer when they both were home from college (Don at Stanford Medical School and Cheryl at Brigham Young University.) A two year long-distance courtship resulted in their marriage in 1961 after Cheryl graduated. She taught elementary school while Don finished his last year of medical school and began his general surgery residency at USC-Los Angeles County Hospital. Their two sons, David and John, were born during this time.

After completing his surgery residency, Don served in the U.S. Army Medical Corps stationed at Walter Reed Hospital on the surgical research team, including a tour in Vietnam. After discharge from the Army, he completed a cardiovascular surgery residency at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. His first job was at the University of Iowa College of Medicine where he worked for 11 years. In 1983, Don joined Dr. Russell M. Nelson's group at the newly constructed LDS Hospital. Don served as chair of the Division of Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery and chief of the Department of Surgery at LDS Hospital. He has published four textbooks on cardiac surgery and more than 200 scientific articles. Don's professional career was uniquely closed by having his son, John R. Doty, MD, join him for the final year and a half.



Don made multiple extended visits to China over a 21-year period to teach and perform cardiac surgery, a program began by the American Heart Association and Russell M. Nelson, MD. This service had a major impact on improving cardiac care in China. He is the founder of the annual Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery Core Curriculum Review.

Cheryl has served as a substitute teacher, volunteered in the newborn ward and at the gift shop at the University of Iowa Hospital, and helped with community events. She served on the Holiday Quilt Show and Auction Board for 30 years, six of which she was chair. Cheryl assisted in the creation of the quilt book "Magnificent Harvest – Quilts from the Heart." The Holiday Quilt Show and Auction board created the "Tree of Life" quilt, displayed at the Doty Family Education Center at Intermountain Medical Center.



When Don retired, he was called to serve as chair of the Missionary Department Health Services for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints where he was responsible for the health of the missionaries worldwide. He and Cheryl served together for nine years. Under the Doty's leadership, the number of retired medical doctors serving as area medical advisors grew as did the number of area mental health advisors. Don traveled extensively to medically underserved countries for the purpose of identifying competent local medical doctors to care for the missionaries.

The Doty's love and commitment to education was the reason for their generous donation to help build the Doty Family Education Center at Intermountain Medical Center. There, doctors, nurses, clinicians, and caregivers can meet to discuss and learn better ways to treat patients. The facility is fully scheduled every day.

The Doty's decision to make Utah their home has provided many opportunities for them and their sons to serve in the community and in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.