



## 2022 Phil Barber Outstanding Community Patron Award

### Sherri & Ralph Williams

In 1993, Ralph and Sherri made a shared commitment to move their family from Los Angeles to Southlake. Sherri, a native Texan, was ready to return home to be closer to family. The choice to move to Southlake wasn't a simple one. Many family members and friends had their own opinions where to settle down with their family. They searched from Colleyville to Flower Mound.

The one common goal was to find the best school system and a community to support it. Southlake's single Senior High School and the fact that everyone was a Dragon was appealing. 1709 was a 2-lane road with bar ditches. Feedstore BBQ was really a Feedstore. Timarron was at it's infancy. Whites Chapel United Methodist was a small Church. Southlake Town Center was not there, it was a farm.

The family disassembled a working horse ranch and developed it into Adam's Lane. So in 1995, the family officially moved into this quaint community. The couple immediately dove in head first into the School District. Sherri began as a volunteer in classrooms, and Ralph wanted to be more involved in the athletics. Ralph and Sherri were Founding members of the Carroll Education Foundation. Ralph was a CPA by trade, and served as the CEF Treasurer for many years. Ralph was an avid Dragon Football fan long before their home as completed. He would make frequent trips to Southlake during the construction of their home. Each trip was planned around the Southlake Carroll Football schedule.

Ralph relocated his property management business to Southlake in 2000. The Williams invested in the land next to what would become Dragon Stadium. Charleston Court Office Park on Silicon Drive was developed from 2002-2019. Ralph had the idea that local Southlake businesses could have satellite offices here near the airport and their homes. This would allow them to spend more time with their families instead of in traffic.

The Williams family joined Whites Chapel United Methodist Church in 1998. Ralph was involved in various Budget and Building Committees which were focused on the Church's growth in the Southlake Community. He also served on the City of Southlake Planning and Zoning Committee for many years.

Sherri was an active parent volunteer at all of their children's schools for many years. Their daughter announced to her class one day that she had the "oldest Mom at Rockenbaugh Elementary." It was because she had been around the school for so long! The Williams were Founding PTO members of Rockenbaugh, Eubanks, Dawson. They were active Volunteers on Carroll Band and Athletic Booster Organizations.

In 2004, Sherri was elected to the Southlake Carroll School Board, and served for nine years until 2013.

All of the Williams children attended CISD, First grade through Graduation. They all Graduated from Universities in Texas.

Sherri also served on Carroll Education Foundation Board from 2015-2020. Sherri currently volunteers on the Carroll Education Foundation Advisory Board. She continues to manage the investment properties in Southlake and has been a Partner at Myan Management Group since 2009.

After Ralph's passing in 2009, Sherri established the CEF Ralph Williams Education Scholarship. There have been numerous Scholarships awarded for 13 years to well-deserving CISD students.

Faith, Family, Friendship and a strong sense of Community enable the Williams family to focus on the future.