

FIRST OKLAHOMA BANK PRESENTS *Business Leaders with Heart*

GRATEFUL. OPTIMISTIC. GENUINE.

Gary Bartlett and Andrea Nielsen have a heart for others that shows in their love for family, community, and the world. Many know them as successful entrepreneurs with Bartlett Equipment Co. and Nielsen's Gifts.



Their compassion for others has been passed through generations. Both were “deeply influenced” by parents who taught them the importance of gratitude and looking for ways to demonstrate thanks.

Gary grew up loving the mission of The Center for Individuals with Physical Challenges, recalling how it improved the quality of life for the daughter of his father's best friend. His father, brother and nephew all have served as president of the Board of Directors at The Center, and Gary was a Board member for over 20 years. Andrea's mother was a speech and hearing volunteer instructor at The Center for many years.

Among other activities, Andrea is a member of Downtown Rotary, Junior League, has supported the Tulsa Girls Art School, and served as a docent at Philbrook Museum of Art. She also has served on the OSU College of Arts and Sciences Advisory Board.

Gary is a founding member of the Tulsa Adult Chapter of The Fellowship of Christian Athletes as well as a founding member and

Chairman of Tulsa Sports Charities. He has served on several Oklahoma State University boards, including the Alumni Association and the OSU Athletic Council. Both Andrea and Gary currently serve on the OSU Foundation Board of Governors.

Together, they have supported the MS Society of Tulsa, Operation Hope Prison Ministry, and the adoption agency Dillon International, which oversaw the adoption of their daughters. In addition to two adult sons from Gary's previous marriage, the couple has two adopted daughters from China (one a college graduate working with autistic children, the other a high-school junior). “In a lot of ways, it's just a ‘God thing’ that allows people from different parts of the world to come together to form a family. It has been a loving and enriching experience,

and we have gained much more than we can explain,” the couple says.

“I feel so blessed to be friends with Gary and Andrea. They make the world a better place and are among the most authentic people I know. Their lives illustrate what it means to treat others as you want to be treated,” says Tom Bennett Jr., Chairman of the Board of First Oklahoma Bank.

Gary and Andrea appreciate that First Oklahoma values personal relationships. “It is very important to us to have a real person answer the phone and be totally engaged in helping us. Strong relationships build a strong bank ... and we value that!”



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