

TWO IOWAN COUPLES

A LASTING GIFT



Left to right: Harlan and Janett Crouse, Schreiner President Dr. Tim Summerlin, and Beth and Eugene Chappell.

by Karen Davis Kilgore, *Planned Giving Advisor*

Iowans. Farmers. Quietly generous folks with fervent desires to help others, especially young people.

When Beth and Eugene Chappell came to Kerrville in 1987 to visit extended family, they liked the city. In addition to Kerrville's scenic beauty and good weather, the visiting Iowans appreciated the presence of a liberal arts college. Even before they officially moved, the Chappells explored campus to learn more about Schreiner and its people. They were favorably impressed.

Eugene remembers those years well. "Schreiner was exactly the reason we chose Kerrville. We appreciated the cultural dimension a college town offers. And right away we wanted to start helping out financially because we had enjoyed many satisfying years of providing scholarships for students at Iowa State University. We wanted to continue something we knew was good for the college and good for us!"

Just two years later, fellow Iowans Janett and Harlan Crouse began a winter migration to the Texas hills as well. Faithful Presbyterians, the Crouses became travel trailer volunteers

at Mo Ranch. There they met Schreiner President Emeritus Andrew Edington, who was conducting an Elderhostel class. While Dr. Edington might have been teaching a Bible course, he often slipped in winsome stories about Schreiner. The Crouses were hooked!

After five years as Winter Texans, the Crouses, too, decided Kerrville was the place to relocate. Janett and Harlan joined First Presbyterian Church even before they became full-time Texans and signed up for a Christian education class that just happened to be taught by Schreiner's campus minister, Dr. Loren Scribner.

"A short time later, Loren convinced us we should join a Schreiner contingent going on a study trip to Italy," explains Janett. "We had an absolutely wonderful time and—when we returned—began thinking that we would like to help Schreiner in some permanent ways."

As the Chappells and the Crouses involved themselves in Schreiner activities, both families began to consider how they might use their agricultural lands back in Iowa to create