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Contact: Lisa A. Fellers
Director of Communications
Office: (817) 531-4498
Cell: (817) 874-8683
lfellers@txwes.edu

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Texas Wesleyan University to award honorary doctorates to community philanthropists Betty and Bobby Bragan

FORT WORTH, May 10 – The Texas Wesleyan University board of trustees will award Betty and Bobby Bragan and an honorary Doctorate of Humanities during the commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 15, at 11 a.m. in the Will Rogers Auditorium located at 3401 W. Lancaster Ave. Honorary degrees are given to persons who have been involved with and significantly contributed to the University and its surrounding community.

“I’m excited,” says Betty of their honor, stating that she and Bobby hope they will positively influence others through their giving.

Texas Wesleyan University President Harold G. Jeffcoat says the Bragans have done just that for Texas Wesleyan. “Betty and Bobby Bragan have been strong supporters of higher education for a long time, not only to colleges and universities, but through the Bobby Bragan Youth Foundation. In addition, they are big supporters of and active in the Methodist Church. For this reason, among others, I think the Bragans have adopted Texas Wesleyan, and we’re glad that they have done so.”

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The Bragans made possible the renovation of the Polytechnic United Methodist Church fellowship hall, which has been named the Betty and Bobby Bragan Fellowship Hall in their honor. Bragan Hall is decorated with donations from Betty and Bobby, among them, a priceless collection of baseball memorabilia from Bobby's 60 plus years of professional service in the major leagues, where he is known as "Mr. Baseball." He has been a player, coach and manager, and from 1969 to 1975, he served as president of the Texas League. As a tribute to Bobby, the Texas League recently named its championship trophy after him.

In 1992, Bobby founded the Bobby Bragan Youth Foundation, to encourage middle school students to become better scholars and community advocates. Through the foundation, Betty, a former teacher with the Fort Worth Independent School District, and Bobby, a dedicated community servant, made a profound impact on the Metroplex by providing college scholarships to hundreds of deserving eighth-graders and encouraging them to "do their best and achieve their highest goals." To date, the Bragan foundation has provided scholarships for 299 students.

Together, the Bragans teach the Wesley Bible Class at First United Methodist Church of Fort Worth and a bible study class from their home. They serve on the Cancer Care Services board of directors and are active in several community organizations including the Fort Worth Women's Club and the Fort Worth Lions Club.

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