

## IBAT Legacy Giving Campaign John Shivers Memorial Fund

**T**his past summer, “Big John” Shivers, one of the outspoken leaders of Texas community banking and a founder of IBAT died. His passing caused many Texas community bankers to reflect on the current banking environment with this question. “How important is True Community Banking to Texas and America?” With hindsight of 20-20 and a passion for what we do as Community Bankers the answer is clear. Community Banking is a difference maker in helping people build their dreams and the communities we share. It is in that spirit of strengthening, nourishing and promoting community banking, and with the permission and support of the Shivers family, that we invite you to make a legacy gift in the John Shivers Memorial Fund.

For those who did not know of John Shivers or his career, this prominent Fort Worth banker led community banker opposition to the legislation that gave rise to the “Too Big To Fail” banks. Ten years earlier, he served as chairman of IBAT.

His 40 year career as a community banker began at Capital National Bank in Austin. In 1974 he moved to Fort Worth where he became Chairman and CEO of Southwest Bank, one of the largest independent community banks in North Texas. He remained with Southwest Bank until his retirement in 2007.

### Here’s what others said about John:

*“John Shivers was a Texas community banker who was bigger than life; that’s why we affectionately called him “Big John.” He fought the good fight to preserve the qualities of community banking that only independent bankers fully appreciate and understand. We will miss him and it is only fitting that we provide a lasting Memorial in his honor with IBAT.”* Chuck Doyle, chairman, Texas First Bank, Texas City.

*“John Shivers was what I always envisioned a Texas Community Banker should be...a big man with a booming voice who worked hard for what he believed in. Independent banking was near and dear to John. He will be missed. I think Chuck Doyle’s suggestion of a memorial endowment is a wonderful way to honor a true giant in our industry.”* Stormy Greef, Partner, Hunton and Williams LLC, Dallas.

*“His love for community banking was as big as himself. No one made a bigger contribution to the industry.”*

Chris Williston, president and CEO, IBAT

### What is the John Shivers Memorial Fund?

The monies collected for the John Shivers Memorial Fund are placed in a restricted account to serve as an income producing asset of the IBAT Education Foundation.

This is a charitable gift fund established in perpetuity. It is the next step in moving IBAT along on its journey to build ongoing capacity to support projects that sustain and grow community banks and bankers in Texas. The IBAT Education Foundation, now in its 10th year, has created an infrastructure, has a host of programs, stable income from contributions and other revenue sources, with a solid plan to continue being a positive voice in support of True Texas Community Banking while providing educational opportunities to fulfill its mission.

The Foundation, as the philanthropic arm of IBAT is committed to promoting the story of community banking. For example, the Foundation supports activities that encourage students to seek careers and ownership in community banks. Secondly, the Foundation works to ensure that community bankers are at the forefront of addressing financial literacy in our Texas schools by providing multiple financial education and partnership opportunities for Texas teachers.

The Shivers Memorial Fund is a separate opportunity for donors. It is a way to provide longer term support for IBAT and its mission of collectively creating value for community banks in Texas. The IBAT Foundation accepts gifts in many forms. Please call Mary Lange at IBAT to discuss. As a 501c(3) organization with tax exempt status, contributions to the Foundation are charitable donations and may be tax-deductible under federal law. Contributions and service donations also may be recognized for Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) consideration per specific FDIC and OCC letters to the IBAT Education Foundation.

Albert Schweitzer (1875-1965) once said, “You must give some time to your fellow men. Even if it is a little thing, do something for others-something for which you get no pay but the privilege of doing it.” John Shivers spent a lifetime putting Schweitzer’s words into daily practice. We now have a special opportunity to honor a special man! ★



**WILLARD J. STILL** is the Board Chairman of the IBAT Education Foundation and Vice Chairman of American Bank, N.A. in Waco

