



JOAN & ANDY HORNER BALLPARK

ballpark HIGHLIGHTS

- Designed by HKS, Inc. architectural firm for Cowboys Stadium in Arlington, American Airlines Center in Dallas, and Rangers Ballpark in Arlington
- Colonial, Georgian-style, red-brick façade
- 2,000-seat capacity
- Party plazas
- Four guest suites
- Closed-circuit television throughout stadium
- Artificial infield dirt and grass
- Batting tunnels under stadium
- Coaches offices
- Ability to host future NCAA Regional Tournaments



Tim Horner, president of Premier Designs and son of Joan and Andy Horner, gave Dr. Gary Cook a phone call one day in the spring of 2012 to share some wonderful news. Tim and his family wanted to do something very special for their parents and at the same time be supportive of Dallas Baptist University. Joan, who passed away in 2010, was a life-long fan of baseball and loved the DBU Patriots. She also served as a member of the DBU Board of Trustees, and over the years Andy had likewise been involved with DBU. Tim shared that their family wanted to give a major gift for a baseball stadium in memory of his mother and in honor of his father.

The Horner family and Premier Designs provided the lead gift of over \$2.5 million for the new ballpark. In addition, another \$1 million has been raised for this outstanding facility.

"DBU has been blessed to have such wonderful friends in Joan and Andy Horner, Tim Horner, and the entire Horner family," shared Dr. Gary Cook. "Their love for the Lord and others has been an incredible example to so many of what it means to be true servants. Their company, Premier Designs, is a testimony of how the Lord moves when we try to glorify Him and serve others through our work."

Dr. Cook and Dr. J. Blair Blackburn, DBU executive vice president, quickly enlisted the help of DBU trustee Ron Skaggs, chairman emeritus of the architectural firm, HKS, Inc., to see if his son, David Skaggs, would serve as the lead architect for the ballpark.

HKS, Inc. is an internationally known architectural firm known especially for its beautiful athletic facilities, including Rangers Ballpark in Arlington, Cowboys Stadium in Arlington, the American Airlines Center in Dallas, and dozens of stadiums and ballparks throughout the U.S. Through the leadership of David Skaggs and

Dr. Blackburn, Horner Ballpark was designed to continue in the colonial-style architecture. The 2,000-capacity stadium features seating and amenities that make it one of the premier ballparks in NCAA Division I baseball, as well as providing a venue for the DBU Patriots to host future NCAA regional tournaments.

"We are thrilled to have this beautiful new ballpark in honor of servant leaders Joan and Andy Horner," explained Dr. Blackburn. "We are grateful to Tim Horner and the Horner Family for their overwhelming generosity to partner with DBU in support of Christ-centered athletics. Because of this facility, we will be able to continue the historic success of our program through recruitment, baseball camps, area baseball tournaments, and the hosting of future NCAA tournaments."

Dallas Baptist University celebrated the opening of the Joan and Andy Horner Ballpark at the beginning of the 2013 baseball season. During opening weekend, the Patriots hosted the Creighton University Bluejays, as students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends gathered to commemorate the historic weekend.

Since 1951, the Horners have been active members of First Baptist Church of Dallas and were also instrumental in founding the radio station KCBI. Andy and Joan Horner were married for more than 60 years before Joan's passing. Their company, Premier Designs, a direct sales jewelry company that began in 1985, is based on Biblical principles with a philosophy of serving, caring, and sharing. The growth of the company from its original inception has been remarkable.

The Horners have five children, Andrea, Tim, Mary, Sarah, and Tommy. In addition they have fourteen grandchildren, including DBU alumna Kathryn Horner. They also have two great grandchildren.