

GIFT OF THE WEEK

A Father's Legacy to Health

WHO GAVE IT: The **Hubert family** of Marietta, Ga.

HOW MUCH: **\$6.1 million**

WHO GOT IT: The **Rollins School of Public Health** at Emory University, Atlanta

BY REQUEST: \$5.1 million will create an **endowment to recruit faculty, support students and underwrite research on global health issues**; \$1 million will fund fellowships for pursuing public-health research abroad.

YOUR NAME HERE: The department of global health, part of the Rollins School, is being named the **Hubert Department of Global Health**, reflecting a series of gifts from the family.



Richard Hubert

HOW IT HAPPENED: O.C. Hubert, who grew up in a farming family in rural Alabama, became a power in the real-estate business. By the time of his death in 1986 at age 80, he was reputed to be the largest individual landowner in fast-growing Cobb County, just north of Atlanta. According to his will, the bulk of his estate was to be used to feed the hungry, cure the sick and give away Bibles, but not until after his wife's death.

Mrs. Hubert, who was 78 when her husband died, "felt her life was an impediment to the charitable purposes they had planned," says her son Richard. So the family agreed to fund a foundation to disperse money while Mrs. Hubert remains alive. The arrangement caught the eye of the Internal Revenue Service, which claimed it was owed \$23 million in estate taxes, penalties and interest. Richard Hubert, a litigator who made his name arguing against the power of eminent domain, fought the IRS and won. Working with William Foege, a former director of the Centers for Disease Control who became a trustee of the Hubert Foundation, the family has dispersed about \$15 million to global health initiatives at Emory and elsewhere. Mr. Hubert hopes it will give away up to \$20 million more before it must be dissolved, under the terms of the will, in about 2011. "You don't have to be Bill and Melinda Gates to engage in meaningful charity work in a niche that is carefully selected," Mr. Hubert says.

—Sally Beatty

John Harrington

gher

ent.

but
er
y
to
rev-
ap-
b-
n-

ds.
mi-

ys

re

is

om