

PRESS RELEASE
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MaryJane Crull, Communications Director
mjc@stxbot.org
361-852-2100 • 361-816-8889

Michael Womack, Executive Director
wmwomack@stxbot.org
361-852-2100 • 361-834-6413

8545 S. Staples St • Corpus Christi TX 78413 • STXBOT.ORG • 361-852-2100

Family adds to Botanical Gardens bronze sculpture collection in memory of founding members Dr. DeWitt & Jane Harvey

CORPUS CHRISTI—Dr. DeWitt & Jane Harvey, founding members of Corpus Christi Botanical Gardens, now South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center, also were leaders in local medical, arts, gardening and wildlife conservation communities.

Children David DeWitt Harvey, Anne Lenore Harvey O'Shell and Thomas Bradner Harvey recently commissioned friend H.W. "Buddy" Tatum, Jr., former local artist now living in New Braunfels, to create a life-sized bronze sculpture titled "Sandhill Cranes," installed near Gator Lake in May, dedicated in a private service June 2.



Thomas DeWitt Harvey (1930-2022) graduated from Texas Tech University and University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, marrying Jane Lenore Bradner in 1955; joining the United States Navy in 1957 assigned to Corona CA; in 1961 becoming a long-time Family Practice physician at Thomas Spann Clinic.

Jane Bradner Harvey (1932-2018) attended University of Texas-Austin, earning a Bachelor's degree in Education at Mills College, Oakland CA, teaching elementary school in Alameda. She received her Master's degree in Interdisciplinary Studies at now Texas A&M University—Corpus Christi, worked in real estate, enjoying tennis, hiking, running and skiing at their Taos NM vacation home.

"The Botanical Gardens is fortunate the Harveys were dedicated generous patrons in the past, with the family gifting this striking sculpture for the future," commented Executive Director Michael Womack. "A few current staff and several board members knew Jane & DeWitt. The sandhill cranes sculpture seems a perfect tribute since the beautiful birds are known to pair for life," added Communications Director MaryJane Crull. They often are seen in the Coastal Bend during our warmer winters returning north in summer months.

The Harvey tribute is the third significant bronze wildlife sculpture along the Botanical Gardens nature trail. "Startled," a white-tailed deer and "Kingfisher," both sculpted by Kent Ullberg, were funded by the Henry M. Brennecke estate.

The Botanical Gardens & Nature Center, 8545 S. Staples St., is open 9 am -6 pm daily.



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