

## IN APPRECIATION *of exemplary leadership*



▲ Dr. and Mrs. Kim Callaghan's faithful and generous support of orthopaedic advances through OREF will benefit surgeons and patients in perpetuity.

**W**ith all that AAOS President **John J. Callaghan, MD** has so far contributed to orthopaedics — through research, teaching, mentoring, treating patients, philanthropy, volunteer service, and advocacy — his success in securing a 1989 OREF Career Development Award may not seem remarkable. For Dr. Callaghan, though, it was.

“No question, receiving an OREF Career Development Award catapulted my research career,” he said. “At the time I was investigating the area of infected total hip replacement and the use of bio-absorbable antibiotics. Although most of my basic research today is in the area of biomechanics, I learned a lot in the process of that study about grant writing and performing basic research. These skills remain embedded in me today. Receiving the letter from OREF acknowledging that I had been named an award recipient is still vivid in my mind more than 20 years later. The grant enabled me to go on to obtain both National Institutes of Health and Veterans Administration funding as a principal investigator.”

In addition to his 1989 OREF Career Development Award, Dr. Callaghan was named the 2003 recipient of the prestigious OREF Clinical Award.\* Since then, he has paid forward the encouragement and support he received early in his career many times over.

### LEADING, COLLABORATING, INSPIRING

Dr. Callaghan has long been known for his unstinting volunteer service on behalf of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS) and so many other orthopaedic, medical, and civic organizations. Orthopaedic education and research, too, have benefited from Dr. Callaghan's distinguished leadership 1998 through 2007 — as an OREF trustee; as a member of the corporate relations, Shands Circle, and specialty society committees; as an officer; and ultimately as board chair.

For example, Dr. Callaghan's volunteer service has achieved notable results in his home state of Iowa. For several years, he sent a personal letter from his office to each AAOS member in Iowa, encouraging support for OREF's research and education endeavors. Thanks in large part to his tireless efforts, nearly 50% of the more than 150 orthopaedists in Iowa contribute to OREF on an annual basis, by far the highest contribution rate in the nation. A majority of these donors make an annual contribution at the Order of Merit Level of \$1,000 or more.

As another key accomplishment, Dr. Callaghan points to OREF's ambitious \$100 million 50th anniversary fundraising campaign, which was launched during his tenure as an OREF trustee and successfully completed during his year as board chair. Campaign co-chairs, **Mr. John W. Brown**, chairman emeritus, Stryker Corporation, and **James R. Urbaniak, MD**, relied a great deal on board members' initiative, and Dr. Callaghan was instrumental in making the campaign a success. "We had the right team in place, and we all pushed hard," Dr. Callaghan said.

"John may have been one of the most active of our trustees in this campaign. He was fully engaged in making the campaign a success," recalled **S. Terrance Canale, MD**, who currently heads the OREF board. "John is personally responsible for bringing in many of the gifts that pushed the campaign over the \$100 million mark. He was just relentless."

"My OREF volunteer experience has helped me express my passion for performing research and for mentoring and supporting those young investigators who have the ability and passion to pursue clinical and basic research," Dr. Callaghan said. "It is amazing to me how bright younger orthopaedic surgeons are today. We need to give that generation the opportunity to contribute through research as well as help them recognize the need to give back to the profession. Even if one does not have the aptitude or interest in performing research, they can sure support it. Volunteering for OREF has helped me in my own community and work setting to feel comfortable asking people to support worthy causes."

## A LEGACY OF POSSIBILITIES

Leadership is clearly the Callaghan way, as evidenced by Dr. and Mrs. Callaghan's 21 years of giving to the OREF annual campaign at the Order of Merit level and participation in the **Alfred R. Shands Jr., MD Circle** at the \$1 million+ Platinum level.

Dr. and Mrs. Callaghan's generosity at the highest tiers for both OREF's Annual Campaign and Shands Circle gifts reflects a rare level of commitment to orthopaedic excellence and the next generation of surgeons and patients. In 2005, the Callaghans were the 15th Shands members to make a \$1 million+ commitment. Today, 26 members have made that level of commitment.

"Both Kim and I feel fortunate to have been able to give back to the field of orthopaedics as we have benefited from it," said Dr. Callaghan. "Even when I was a young attending on a military salary, we had the desire and felt an obligation to support orthopaedic research through OREF. We are firm believers in the adage, 'Of those to whom much has been given, much is expected.' We both understand that without cutting-edge basic and clinical research, the field of orthopaedics would never be what it is today. And it won't advance as much in the future as it has to date if we can't get sharp young minds to dedicate a part of their time to research. We both recognize the long road to NIH funding and for many, including myself, it all started with an OREF grant." ■

\*Callaghan JJ, Pedersen DR, Johnston RC, Brown, TD. *Clinical Biomechanics of Wear in Total Hip Arthroplasty*, 2002.