

A Hole in One For Cancer Treatment

Ray Walsh was an avid golfer, hitting the links at least once a week for more than 30 years. Like his favorite pro Phil Mickelson, Walsh was a lefty, and most enjoyed playing with his four sons at the Atascosita Country Club.

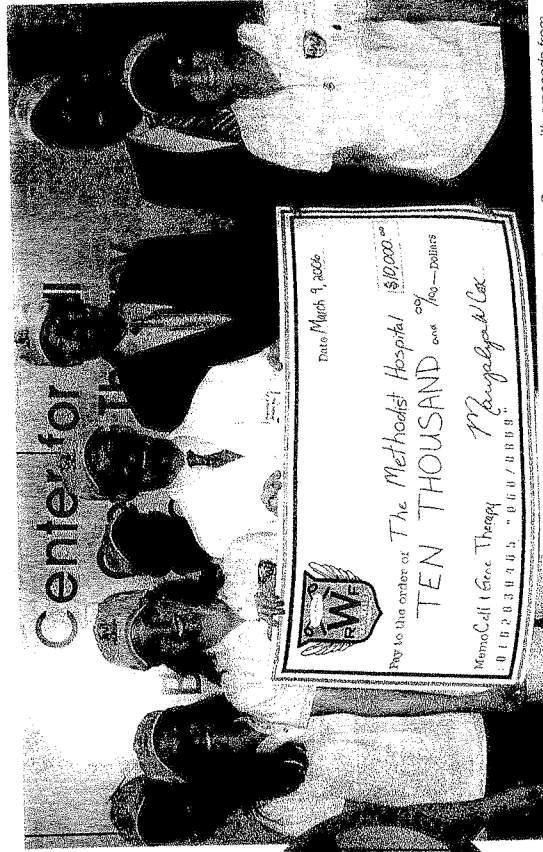
After playing in many pro-am and attending numerous Masters tournaments, Walsh was present at his final round just one week before passing away last July from lymphoma. He sat proudly in his golf cart watching his family play the game that was his passion.

Four months later, Walsh's wife Fran, eight children and 11 grandchildren found themselves on the golf course to honor and pay tribute to a man who was loved by all who knew him. Established after Walsh's death, The Ray Walsh Foundation sponsored its first golf tournament, raising more than \$12,000 for cancer research. More than 100 of Walsh's friends and family

participated in the fundraising effort that resulted in a gift of \$10,000 to the Center for Cell and Gene Therapy (CAGT), a Center of Excellence at The Methodist Hospital.

After his initial diagnosis and treatment in 1999, Walsh's family was devastated by the news of his recurrence of lymphoma in October 2004. After undergoing chemotherapy, Walsh was told in January that nothing could be done to prolong his life. He then saw Drs. Alex Preti and George Carrum at the CAGT, who enrolled him in a clinical trial, enabling him to live another six months — long enough to meet his new grandson, who was born in June.

According to his daughter Maryalyce Cox, Walsh was



Members of the Ray Walsh Foundation present Dr. Alex Preti, Mark Kimbell and Dr. George Carrum with proceeds from the golf tournament.

extremely pleased with the physicians and care he received at Methodist. In addition, his family was immediately impressed with Methodist's commitment to research.

"The aggressive pursuit of innovative therapies by the physicians and researchers at the CAGT were appealing to our family foundation. We hope

Methodist can use the money we raised to help patients like my dad who have rare and aggressive cancers and do not fit the traditional mold of chemotherapy treatment," Cox said.

Walsh's wife Fran has been a source of strength and support for the family grieving the loss of such a wonderful man. "Ray

was an amazing man, a thoughtful friend to many, and a proud father and grandfather," she said. Aside from golf, she says her husband's favorite activity was dancing, and she has fond memories of the years of smiles he brought to her on the dance floor.

"Raising money for other cancer patients would have made him very proud. And donating money from the Ray Walsh Foundation to directly impact the excellent cancer program at Methodist is a wonderful way to have his spirit live on forever," she said. *