



John E. Kirkpatrick  
1908-2006

A 1931 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, John E. Kirkpatrick was proud of his service to his country. Initially, he served as an officer until 1935 and remained in the Navy Reserves until he was called back to active duty in early 1941. Just months following the December 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor, Lieutenant Commander John E. Kirkpatrick sailed into the harbor aboard the battleship North Carolina. He was immediately devastated by the abundant destruction. It would be a sight he would always remember.

During World War II, Mr. Kirkpatrick would go on to serve on the USS Alaska and the USS Oklahoma City, earning two Bronze Stars and holding the rank of Commander at the conclusion of the war. He continued his career in the U. S. Navy Reserve, retiring as a Rear Admiral in 1956.

Having never forgotten the Pearl Harbor devastation he witnessed firsthand, Mr. Kirkpatrick worked with the Navy to bring one of three anchors of the USS Oklahoma to Oklahoma City. The May 19, 1960 dedication of the anchor memorial symbolized a dream fulfilled for Mr. Kirkpatrick and a day he would never forget.



The USS Oklahoma Anchor Memorial was rededicated on June 30, 2006. The U.S. Navy and community leaders participated in the ceremony.

# Preserving history

## Great Gifts

Thanks to the efforts and financial support of Rear Admiral John E. Kirkpatrick, USNR, Ret., the USS Oklahoma Anchor has had a home in Oklahoma City since 1960.

Originally dedicated in 1960 at a site near the Civic Center in downtown Oklahoma City, the nearly 20,000-pound anchor was moved to a median at Park Avenue and Broadway Avenue in 1980 to make room for construction of Leadership Square. Due to recent renovation efforts at the Skirvin Hotel, it was necessary to relocate the anchor to a more permanent site. In December 2005, the memorial was moved to Campbell Park at 13th Street and Broadway Avenue.

A Great Gift from Mr. Kirkpatrick's fund at the Oklahoma City Community Foundation provided for the restoration of the anchor and its granite base as well as upgrades to the new site including a 30-foot lighted flagpole and a granite historical marker. Campbell Park is located in front of the

original location of the Kirkpatrick Oil Company. For more than 20 years, landscaping and maintenance of the three-acre public park has been provided by the Oklahoma City Community Foundation and Dolese Brothers Co.

"Because of Mr. Kirkpatrick's naval career and his direct involvement in bringing the anchor to Oklahoma City, we feel a strong sense of pride and responsibility for the memorial," says Nancy B. Anthony, executive director of the Oklahoma City Community Foundation.

Thanks to Mr. Kirkpatrick, the community is home to an important historical icon that serves as a constant reminder of the men and women who have served and continue to serve our country.

If you are interested in discussing how you can make a Great Gift to help your community, please contact us at 405/235-5603.

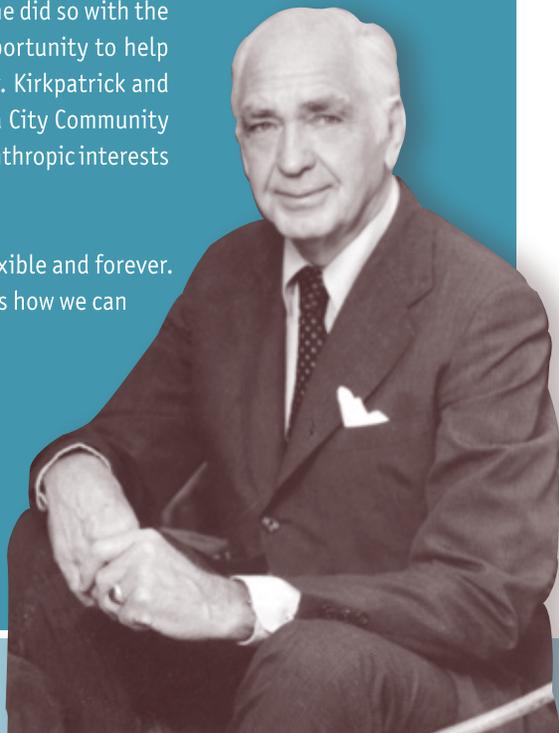
# Helping Our Community

Through a Great Gift

## John E. Kirkpatrick

When John E. Kirkpatrick established the Oklahoma City Community Foundation in 1969, he did so with the intent of providing residents the opportunity to help their community. Since that time, Mr. Kirkpatrick and his family have utilized the Oklahoma City Community Foundation to further their own philanthropic interests and we have all benefited.

We make charitable giving simple, flexible and forever. Contact us at 405/235-5603 to discuss how we can help you help your community.



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