NAMING OF THE DORIS J. AND DONALD L. DUCHENE, SR. ATHLETIC FACILITY

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Governors approve the naming of the Doris J. and Donald L. Duchene, Sr. Athletic Facility in the Department of Athletics at Wayne State University.

In recognition of the generosity of the Doris J. and Donald L. Duchene, Sr. Foundation to the department’s general expendable support fund, the Department of Athletics shall name its Multipurpose Indoor Facility, located at 5101 John C. Lodge Drive, 101 Matthaei, the Doris J. and Donald L. Duchene, Sr. Athletic Facility.

Background

Donald L. Duchene, Sr. was born in 1928 in Detroit, Michigan. He served as a member of the U. S. Air Force and was a successful businessman. Duchene was an avid Detroit Tigers fan and a generous benefactor to many worthy organizations, Catholic parishes and schools. He passed away in 2015.

Doris J. Duchene (née Nicolay) was born in 1926 in Detroit, Michigan. Her father, Ernest Nicolay, was the co-founder of the New Era Potato Chip Company. New Era eventually merged with Frito Lay, which then merged with Pepsi Co. The Nicolay family remained involved in the business. Doris Duchene passed away in 2001.

In 1997, the Doris J. and Donald L. Duchene Sr. Foundation was established to provide support for community improvement, education and human services, among other priorities. S. Gary Spicer, Sr., an attorney and close friend for more than 35 years, serves as president of the foundation and guides its philanthropy to expand the generosity and legacy of the Duchenes.

Gift Amount
$400,000