



**Jack Trotter(far right) with Milton Carroll and State Senator Rodney Ellis**

On Thanksgiving Day, Technology For All lost a friend when Jack Trotter died after several years of declining health. Mr. Trotter was TFA's Chairman Emeritus and was instrumental in helping TFA open doors over the years that propelled our organization to effectiveness and prominence. But beyond his ability and willingness to open doors, he was a trusted confidant and a kind, gracious man who often put others ahead of himself. He cared about

our city and worked not just with Technology For All, but with many nonprofits over the years in ways that gave them credibility and expanded their support and effectiveness.

The first time that I met Jack I was scared because of the stories I had heard. But, what I discovered was a man with a heart for others and a man who wanted a better Houston for all. Because he cared about our city, Jack Trotter quietly contributed, and influenced others to contribute, to many of Houston's most visible and not so visible charitable institutions. His business acumen and legendary arm-twisting were significant factors in the development and growth of several nonprofit institutions that today are leaders in their fields. Jack Trotter demonstrated over and over that he cared about Houston. Through unselfish action and leadership he opened doors and influenced the wealthy and well connected of our city to do their part to make Houston a better place for all. The institutions he assisted in many different ways include those whose names are well known like the Baylor College of Medicine, Rice University, Episcopal High School, The Brookwood Community and the YMCA of Greater Houston. But he also supported and encouraged countless lesser known institutions like the Pan American Cultural Exchange and the Rutherford B. Yates museum in Freedman's town (Fourth Ward). From our very first meeting, Jack Trotter opened incredible doors of opportunity for Technology For All.

Not only will Technology For All miss Jack Trotter, but I will miss him. He was a personal friend who always greeted Karen and me graciously when we came by to visit. As TFA board member Jack Clark noted last night, "While his passing will leave a very large hole in my heart I rejoice that he has found release from his suffering."

Jack Trotter was a friend to many. Please remember his family and his friends during this time of loss.

Thanksgiving Day, November 26, 2009  
Will Reed

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