

Josie Ward Shuford '88 Parent '19, '20

From left to right: Josie Shuford Jr., Lindsay Shuford,
Josie Shuford Sr. and Anna Shuford

A native of Greensboro, N.C., Josie Ward Shuford '88 grew up with dreams of one day attending the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Encouraged by her parents and sister, Patty Ward Hendrix '83, Josie focused on her studies and played competitive tennis as a path to attaining her dream. After being accepted to Carolina, she balanced her academic pursuits with time on the tennis courts, playing on the women's team her sophomore year. "Being a student-athlete at Carolina taught me so much about finding the right balance in life and working hard to achieve your dreams," said Josie.

Josie met her husband, Jim Shuford '88, a fifth-generation Tar Heel, at UNC. The two married, moved to Charlotte and have four children: UNC students Lindsay '20 and Anna '19, and Josie and Harley. For the Shufords, ensuring the future of the University and its students' success is critical.

The Shuford family — including Jim's siblings Dorothy Shuford Lanier '93 and Stephen Shuford '97 (M.B.A.) — made an \$18 million gift to the College of Arts & Sciences to enhance the existing entrepreneurship

minor, establishing the Shuford Family Entrepreneurship Minor program. The program, open to any major, enables students to transform innovative ideas into viable businesses and nonprofit ventures. It has grown exponentially in size and stature to become one of the nation's top undergraduate entrepreneurship programs. "Philanthropy is such a big part of our family's life," Josie shared. "From the time our children were little we have encouraged them to look for ways to help others, give back and make things better."

Josie is a member of the Carolina Women's Leadership Council and supports many areas of campus, from the College of Arts & Sciences to Kenan-Flagler Business School. "I love the philanthropic spirit of the Council," she said. "Being around other women who are interested in how they can contribute and give back to Carolina is inspiring."

The Carolina Women's Leadership Council is a network of women committed to supporting the University. For more information, contact Lanier Brown May at lanier_may@unc.edu or 919-843-5883.





