

It is with great sadness that I report the passing of Charles “Chuck” Obershaw, respected local business leader and philanthropist and a tremendous supporter of Cal State San Bernardino.

We received word earlier today from Chuck’s son, David, that his father passed away Thursday afternoon.

Chuck and his wife, Shelby, have contributed greatly to our university and the local community. Chuck founded a number of successful automotive dealerships and was former president of the San Bernardino Motor Car Association and the San Bernardino Area Chamber of Commerce. He was also a member of CSUSB's Philanthropic Foundation Board.

The Obershaws have long been interested in education, with a particular focus on students, teacher training and scholarships. Shelby taught elementary school for more than 20 years in San Bernardino, then later spent 12 years on the San Bernardino City Unified School District board.

Between 1999 and 2005, the Obershaws made significant gifts to endow scholarships in the Jack H. Brown College of Business & Public Administration, the College of Education and Intercollegiate Athletics. In January 2017, they gave \$1 million to establish the Charles & Shelby Obershaw Endowment for Student Success, supporting the social and academic success of students in the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) Renaissance Scholars program, the DEN Food Pantry, and the Entrepreneurship program in the Brown College.

In recognition of their commitment and generous support, Chuck and Shelby were presented with honorary Doctors of Humane Letters in 2006. Their names also grace the main hall in the University’s Meeting Center as well as the DEN Food Pantry on the San Bernardino campus.

Chuck’s passing is a loss for the entire CSUSB family and all those who knew and worked with him. Information regarding services will be shared as it becomes available. In this time of grief, I ask everyone to remember Shelby, the Obershaw children – David, Lynda, Lisa Obershaw-Durham and Elizabeth Obershaw-Arciuch and the rest of the family in your thoughts and prayers.

Tomás D. Morales
President