BETTY S. LOWDER
2015 Distinguished Alumna Award Recipient

Betty is a retired Certified Financial Planner and a graduate of Texas Tech with a degree in Family Finance – one of the first graduates with this degree. This degree is now the Personal Financial Planning degree.

Betty began her education at Texas Tech when all three of her children were teenagers. After graduating, she worked in non-profit financial counseling for five years for the United Way. At this point, she made the decision to enter the financial planning field. She started on the Certified Financial Planner (CFP) certification program and began working with Lee Pennington and Mark Bass of Pennington, Bass & Associates.

Betty continued her study for the CFP designation while employed by Lee and Mark in the areas of financial planning, corporate administration and broker/dealer management. She obtained her CFP designation in 1985.

Since that time, she has continued to be an avid supporter of the Texas Tech Personal Financial Planning program. She also volunteers and works in the financial services industry. A partnership with Texas Tech, the Davenport Education Foundation and the National Association of Government Deferred Compensation Administrators (NAGDA) has resulted in the establishment of the International Foundation for Retirement Education (InFRE). An accredited certification for professional retirement counselors has been developed by InFRE. Betty has been involved in the development of this certification since its beginning. She currently serves as the Secretary-Treasurer of the Board of Governors of InFRE.

Betty’s many current and past community volunteer activities include:

- **First United Methodist Church**
  - Co-chair Investment Committee, Finance Committee
  - Council on Ministries
  - Board of Trustees
  - Conference Board of Pensions and other committees over the years.

- **Boy Scouts of America**
  - South Plains Council President
  - Chair Trust Advisory Committee
  - Advisor Co-Ed High Adventure Post
  - Lifetime Executive Board member
  - Mother of 2 Eagle Scouts
  - Grandmother of One (another one soon)
  - Mother of Gold Girl Scout Award
  - Silver Beaver Award, the highest award a Scout Council can give.

- **Lubbock Area Foundation**
  - Board of Directors
  - Grants Committee Chair
  - C.R. Hutcheson Volunteer of the Year Award

Betty and husband, Jim, were honored by the Lubbock Area United Way with the Rita Harmon Volunteer Award.

Betty is a Distinguished Alumna of the College of Human Sciences and past chair of the Dean’s Advisory and Development Committee. A scholarship has been established in her name for students in the Personal Financial Planning Department. She is a member of Phi Kappa Phi honor society.