## LIVING LEGENDS

By Cara Lindberg, Development Department & Donor Relations Manager

## **Bev & Steve Elliott**

Beverlynn Elliott, though Houston-born, considers Pittsburgh home. Bev is active with a plethora of Pittsburgh nonprofit organizations including the Heinz History Center, where she serves as vice chair of the Board of Trustees, chair of the Patron Committee, and co-chair of the Endowment Campaign, alongside her husband, Steve.

The couple met at Texas Tech University, where Bev studied business and Steve studied engineering and then finance. After living in numerous cities around the country, the Elliotts moved to Pittsburgh in 1987 when Steve took a position with then-Mellon Financial Corporation. "Pittsburgh was the most pleasant surprise! Everyone says the same thing. I've never met anyone who didn't love it," Bev commented.

Bev and Steve were introduced to the History Center by Frank Cahouet, then president and CEO of Mellon, who was heading the museum's Capital Campaign. "Since the History Center came along it has been so educational, not just for children but for adults too," Bev said. "It really opened up the whole wonderful world of history. I think it's one of the greatest treasures that Pittsburgh has."

Since that time, the Elliotts progressively have become more involved. They joined the 1879 Founders' Circle and in 2006 Bev signed on as the History Center's first Patron Committee chair, a group made up of woman leaders in the community who host special events and openings for the History Center's traveling exhibitions, as well as serving as docents.

"It's easy to get involved in Pittsburgh," said Bev. "I enjoy the community involvement



Bev and Steve Elliott at the History Makers Dinner. Photo by Suellen Ftzsimmons.

– it's a way to give back and to get to know lots of people."

Shortly after a successful opening of *First Ladies: Political Role and Public Image*, Bev and Steve accepted the roles of co-chairs of the History Center's \$12 million Endowment Campaign, a project close to both their hearts.

"Steve and I wanted our giving to continue on here at the History Center long after we're gone; it's the gift that can keep on giving throughout the years."

Through this campaign, the Elliotts hope to bring the endowment to \$30 million because "You can do so much more if you know you have a strong investment to call on in the years ahead." They are hopeful that the History Center's members and friends will join them in building this important resource.

With this great passion also comes an adventurous spirit. Bev and Steve love golfing, traveling, and hiking; their two favorite spots are Grand Teton and Yellowstone national parks.

For more information on how you can make a planned gift to the History Center's Endowment fund, please contact Audrey Brourman at 412-454-6404.