

Leslie and Hawkins Golden

Leslie and Hawkins are both native Dallasites. Hawkins attended St. Mark's for twelve years and then earned his B.S. degree at Vanderbilt University. He then earned his J.D. and M.B.A. at Southern Methodist University.

Leslie graduated from Hillcrest High School and attended Vanderbilt University for two years, finishing with a B.B.A. in Marketing at the University of Texas at Austin. She is a life member of the Texas Exes. Leslie was a member of the Kappa Alpha Theta sorority. She was on the Cactus yearbook staff at the University of Texas.

While at Vanderbilt, Hawkins was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity and an outstanding football kicker. He received the game ball after kicking four field goals to beat the University of Georgia at Vanderbilt Homecoming. Hawkins was nominated as one of Vanderbilt's top 100 football players in their first one hundred years. Hawkins practiced law for a short time and then went into the oil and gas business and real estate, which he practices today. Hawkins owns White Rock Self Storage and donates storage space to Equest.

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Upon finishing college, Leslie worked for Neiman Marcus in their Advertising Department. She then went to work in hotel marketing for Doubletree Hotels and was named their Sales Manager of the Year for the corporation in 1980. She was also awarded Sales and Marketing Executives' Top Hotel Salesperson of the Year in 1984.

They have been married for forty years and have two boys, Hawkins Golden III and Houston Golden, who has two children of his own: West (6) and Willa (3). They live in Los Angeles.

They are members of Highland Park United Methodist Church and the Dallas Country Club. Hawkins was a founding board member of The Park City Club. Leslie is an active member of the Dallas Women's Club and Dallas Garden Club, a past president of the Junior League's Garden Club Committee, and a sustaining member of the Dallas Junior League. She has volunteered with the Freedom Ride Foundation since 1987 and with Equest through the Junior League since 1993.

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Leslie served as Chairman of the Awards Banquet in 1995, Auction Chairman in 1996, and was named the Equest Volunteer of the Year. She served on the Governing Board of Directors from 2000–2006. She was the Boot Scoot 'n Ball Chairman in 2002, with Jerry Jeff Walker. In 2006 she was Underwriting Chairman of the 25th Anniversary Moon and Stars Gala and has served in many other capacities. She is currently on the Advisory Board. Leslie and Hawkins were Honorary Gala Chairs in 2022.

Leslie is a member and past president of the Lakeside Browning Club and participates in the Dallas Symphony Orchestra League, the Woman's Council of the Dallas Arboretum, the Mary K. Craig Class, and Kappa Alpha Theta Alumni. She was active in the St. Mark's Parent Association and is listed in Who's Who of American Women. She and her husband are members of the Dallas Dinner Dance Club, the Thalia Club, the Bacchanalia Club, the Couples Book Club, and the Dallas Knife and Fork Club.

Hawkins is a member of Idlewild, the Calyx Club, and the Terpsichorean Club. He is active in the St. Mark's Alumni Association and recently hosted his fifty-fifth reunion. Hawkins and Leslie enjoy traveling together, and they own a ranch in Jacksboro where they hunt, fish, and ride. Leslie fell in love with horses when she got her first ponies at the age of four, Sandra Dee and Brenda Lee. She currently owns five horses and has Angus cattle. Horses are her passion, and she knows how much they can improve people's lives.