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Tomanek Hall: Script used by President Jerry Tomanek during the dedication ceremonies for Tomanek Hall

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DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS OF THEE PLATFORM PARTY, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN. THANK YOU PRESIDENT ED, MIKE, PAT, AND KEN FOR THOSE KIND REMARKS.

IT IS DIFFICULT FOR ARDIS AND ME AND OUR FAMILY TO EXPRESS OUR FEELINGS ABOUT RECEIVING THIS GREAT HONOR. WE FIND OURSELVES WITH A SENSE OF PRIDE MIXED WITH A HUGE DOSE OF HUMILITY BECAUSE WE KNOW MANY OTHER SCIENTISTS AND NON-SCIENTISTS, PAST AND PRESENT, WHOSE CONTRIBUTIONS ARE SUCH THAT THEIR NAMES COULD HAVE BEEN, JUST AS APPROPRIATELY, ON THIS BEAUTIFUL BUILDING. WE ARE VERY PLEASED TO SHARE THIS HONOR WITH THE FAMILY OF AN OLD FRIEND AND CLASSMATE, KEITH SEBELIUS. WE ARE ALSO PLEASED THAT TWO GREAT FORT HAYS STATERS, STAN DALTON AND JIM KELLERMAN, ARE BEING RECOGNIZED WITH A BEAUTIFUL FOUNTAIN.

I KEEP SAYING WE BECAUSE ARDIS AND I HAVE ALWAYS OPERATED AS A TEAM AND WHATEVER WAS ACCOMPLISHED WAS DONE AS A TEAM. NONE OF THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE WITHOUT THE HELP, SUPPORT AND PATIENCE OF ARDIS AND OUR FAMILY.

WE DO WANT TO ESPECIALLY THANK PRESIDENT HAMMOND AND THE BOARD OF REGENTS FOR PUTTING OUR NAME ON THIS MAGNIFICENT STRUCTURE. HOWEVER, WE ALSO WANT TO THANK THE ADMINISTRATION, FACULTY AND STAFF, PAST AND PRESENT, THE STUDENT BODY, MY FORMER STUDENTS OF WHOM I AM SO PROUD AND I AM HAPPY TO SEE SO MANY IN THE AUDIENCE, AND LAST BUT NOT LEAST OUR WONDERFUL FRIENDS AND RELATIVES FOR THEIR TREMENDOUS SUPPORT.

WE ARE SO PLEASED THAT OUR BELOVED FORT HAYS STATE IS IN GOOD HANDS AND CONTINUES TO GET BETTER AND BETTER UNDER THE EXPERT GUIDANCE OF PRESIDENT HAMMOND WITH THE SUPPORT OF HIS LOVELY WIFE VIVIAN, HIS ADMINISTRATION, FACULTY AND STAFF. FORT HAYS STATE HAS BEEN AND CONTINUES TO BE VERY IMPORTANT TO OUR FAMILY. OUR GRANDDAUGHTER, LORI BAINTER SHADDIX, WAS THE FOURTH GENERATION OF OUR IMMEDIATE FAMILY TO ATTEND FORT HAYS STATE. WHEN SHE WENT OUT TO TEACH AT ELKHART FOLLOWING GRADUATION, SHE REPRESENTED THE FIFTH GENERATION OF TEACHERS IN OUR FAMILY. AS NEAR AS WE CAN ASCERTAIN ARDIS' AND MY EXTENDED FAMILIES HAVE CONTRIBUTED OVER 100 STUDENTS TO FORT HAYS AND AT LEAST 65 HAVE RECEIVED DEGREES. SINCE THE UNIVERSITY HAS BEEN SO IMPORTANT TO OUR FAMILIES, RECEIVING THIS HONOR IS TRULY FANTASTIC!!

ARDIS AND I HAVE HAD SO MANY WONDERFUL THINGS HAPPEN TO US OVER THE PAST 50 YEARS AND THIS SORT OF CAPS THEM ALL. INDEED WE FEEL BLESSED!! WE DO ACCEPT THIS HONOR WITH PRIDE AND HUMILITY AND WE THANK YOU ALL, EACH AND EVERYONE.