

# Bob Stelloh's Lasting Gift to ASA

by Hale Booth, Chattanooga, TN

There is no question that **Bob Stelloh** loved his family, azaleas and the ASA. He found a way to honor all in one incredibly generous act as he left all of us. Shortly after Bob's passing, his wife Audrey contacted the Azalea Research Foundation to inform us that through Bob's will, he had left 1,000 shares of Ford Motor Company stock to fund ASA's Azalea Research Foundation. At the time of his donation, the dividend paying stock shares had a value of approximately \$17,000. Bob directed that this donation was in honor of the Stelloh family. This valuable stock donation has been placed in the ASA Schwab stock account for continuing support of future azalea research projects. We would like to thank **Audrey Stelloh** for her help in expediting this stock transfer.

As has been previously reported in *The Azalean*, Bob Stelloh donated generously of his time to ASA. He served for years as webmaster, building a virtual monument of data and pictures of azaleas to help gardeners study azaleas and thus help ASA with our mission of educating the public about our beloved azaleas. He was tireless (as others are) in answering the public's questions posted online about caring for their azaleas. As many members know, Bob gave freely of his time to the necessary organizational meetings of ASA that are necessary to properly run our organization. He was also a highly valued member of the Azalea Research Foundation and gave his time and skills freely in organizing and charting the course of the research foundation function of ASA. Now his work will continue through the generosity of his lasting gift to ASA's research program.

The Azalea Research Foundation accepts applications for azalea research projects at any time of the year. Research proposals are welcome from individual researchers as well as through organizations. Full information on the research program and the application form can be found on ASA's website by clicking on the link on the upper left-hand side of the home page. Committee members are periodically contacting various horticultural programs at universities to make them aware of the ASA support for important azalea research and to encourage and solicit research proposals.

The majority of the Azalea Research Foundation's funding has come from memorial donations and gifts from the estates of ASA members. This is a meaningful way to honor someone and offers the opportunity to support and carry on their love for azaleas into the future.

The ASA Research Foundation would also like to thank the following donations in memory of Bob Stelloh as of early October:

Ben Morrison Chapter	\$250
Oconee Chapter	\$200
<b>Carole and Dale Flowers</b>	\$100
<b>Hale and Susan Booth</b>	\$50

Our thanks go out to the Stelloh family for sharing Bob with us and for the lasting legacy of his parting gift to carry on the research mission of The Azalea Society.

*Hale Booth is Chairman of the Azalea Research Foundation Committee.*

## In Memory

### Harold Melvin Pellett



Harold Melvin Pellett of Eden Prairie, Minnesota, passed away July 22, 2014 at the age of 76. Harold was a University of Minnesota professor for 30 years, and the leader of the Woody Landscape Plant Breeding Program conducted at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum and Horticulture Research Center. Pellett is well known for his introduction of tree and shrub varieties resulting from the breeding program, but is best known for introducing 14 cold-hardy deciduous azalea cultivars. He introduced the Northern Lights azalea in 1978 and expanded the original pinkish-mauve hues to white, lemon yellow, orange, peach and lilac.

In 1990 Harold founded the Landscape Plant Development Center with a mission of developing superior cold-hardy landscape plants. He won dozens of professional awards from state nursery associations, botanic gardens, arboreta, professional organizations, and gardening associations. Harold is survived by Shelby, his wife of 54 years, six children, many grandchildren, a great grandchild, and three siblings.