

*"We see the Lord working
through DBU."*

Clarice and John Langran



Supporting Christian Education for future generations

Clarice Langran had not been working long as a real estate agent when her boss told her that he did not think that she would make it. "You just don't have the ego," he stated.

Not skipping a beat, Clarice responded that she had something far more important—she had faith. "With God, all things are possible," she explained.

Within a few short years, Clarice left her doubting boss to join Ebby Halliday Realtors, soon becoming the top sales representative of the company. Seeing how her humility and compassion for the customer produced such wonderful results, Ebby charged Clarice with developing a program to train each one of her Realtors, a program that helped propel Ebby Halliday Realtors to the top among real estate companies in North Texas.

This type of focus on faith and belief in God's provision are characteristics that have defined Clarice and John Langran. When the Langrans met in Dallas in 1962, John had recently moved from his home in England to a job in the printing business. They married a few months later on November 22, 1962.

Over the years, they became active members in their church, and one day in 1988 during the service, the pastor introduced the church to Christopher Nkhoma, a young pastor from Malawi, who had come to study at DBU. The church unexpectedly called upon Clarice and John to help host the young man during his stay. Although surprised, they stepped forward in faith, not realizing he would soon become like family.

The Langrans had known about Dallas Baptist since its arrival from Decatur in the 1960s, but only from a distance. Now, through Chris, they would learn firsthand.

After a year, the Langrans decided to open their home to him. Every weekend, John would drive to the DBU campus to pick Chris up on Friday, provide meals for him over the weekend, take him to church, and then take him back to the dorms on Sunday evening.

In 1990, Chris completed his undergraduate degree, and after graduation he decided to stay on full time at the University that had given him so much. He moved his family to the U.S. and was finally given the opportunity to introduce his wife, Winnie, and children to his adopted family, the Langrans. As Chris' commitment to DBU grew stronger, so did the Nkhomas' relationship with the Langrans.

After teaching biblical studies for 11 years in the same classrooms where he, himself, sat as a student, the Lord called Chris home to be with Him in 2009.

During his life, the Langrans gave of themselves to support Chris and his family, just as they saw him selflessly serving DBU. Now, in his memory, they are carrying on Chris' legacy in supporting the University that has impacted them for so long.

"After seeing DBU as it was then and the struggles and how it all was changed, it was just something that we wanted to be a part of," shared John.

"We see the Lord working through DBU," Clarice added.

Through their will, DBU will continue to be blessed by the Langrans in the years to come. However, if you ask them, DBU was only a logical choice.

"We felt like it was the best place to invest our money because of what DBU was doing globally," explained John. "The end product of DBU is so many great godly men and women who leave to serve in so many different areas of life."

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