C. Glenn Cobbs was born in Birmingham, attended the University of the South and graduated Cum Laude from Princeton University in 1955. For the following three years, Dr. Cobbs served in the United States Marine Corps, then attended medical school, initially at the University of Alabama School of Medicine and then for his last two years at Harvard Medical School, from which he graduated in 1963. Dr. Cobbs served as a resident in medicine at what would become the University of Alabama at Birmingham and then completed a fellowship in Infectious Diseases at New York Hospital, Cornell Medical Center.

Dr. Cobbs returned to UAB in 1968 to serve as the first director and only faculty member of the Division of Infectious Diseases. During his tenure as director from 1968 until 1990, Dr. Cobbs recruited additional faculty, trained many fellows, and built the program into one of the strongest divisions of infectious diseases in the country. He envisioned the concept for a specialty program in geographic medicine, and recruited Dr. Bruce Greene as its first leader.

Upon relinquishing the administrative leadership of the Division of Infectious Diseases, Dr. Cobbs assumed the position as Chief of Medical Service for the Birmingham Veterans Administration Medical Center, which he held until his retirement in 1999. He holds the rank of Professor Emeritus on the UAB faculty.

Dr. Cobbs has been a visiting lecturer at numerous academic medical centers and is a highly productive clinical investigator who has made major contributions to the understanding and management of infective endocarditis and other intravascular infections.

More importantly, Dr. Cobbs has been an exemplary role model as a physician educator who has demonstrated unwavering commitment to education at the bedside and in the conference room and has continually reminded the administration of UAB of the absolute importance of education as one of the three legs of the traditional academic stool. During his years at UAB, he trained and mentored more than 40 fellows, more than half of whom have pursued careers in academic medicine, and many of who are considered international leaders in the field.

In 2000, the UAB Department of Medicine established an annual Award for Clinical Excellence named jointly for Dr. Cobbs and his colleague Edwin A. Rutsky, MD, from the Division of Nephrology.
The University of Alabama at Birmingham Division of Infectious Diseases seeks to recognize the outstanding accomplishments of C. Glenn Cobbs, MD, by establishing an Endowment in his name.

This fund will serve as a fitting and a lasting tribute to Dr. Cobbs’ contributions to the field of Infectious Diseases, to the University through his founding leadership of the Division, and to the furtherance of medical education.

We earnestly solicit the participation and partnership of family, friends, grateful patients and professional colleagues of Dr. Cobbs in completing this much-needed endowment and in honoring this outstanding physician and leader.

This Endowment represents a major step in the effort to improve the health and quality of life of countless individuals who suffer from infectious diseases, and in the education of countless future physicians. Moreover, the endowment will symbolize an investment not only in UAB but in the future of scientific endeavor and patient care, and their impact on the citizens of our community, state, and nation.

The goal of this initiative is to raise $250,000 to create an Endowed Scholar position in honor and recognition of C. Glenn Cobbs, MD. Our ultimate goal would be to complete the endowment as a Professorship with a corpus of $500,000, and then a Chair with a corpus of $1.5 million.

Establishing an Endowment provides testimony to the donor’s sense of social responsibility. Endowed faculty positions provide, in perpetuity, a valuable tool to recruit and retain premiere teachers, clinicians and researchers – forever influencing the quality education provided to our students and the care accorded to our patients.

The C. Glenn Cobbs, MD, Endowed Support Fund would provide the following:

- Honor Dr. Cobbs legacy of academic excellence in perpetuity
- Prestige and recognition to a faculty member who receives the Endowed Scholar position within the University and in the wider academic community
- Valuable resource to the University in the highly competitive recruitment and retention of the best and brightest faculty

The strength of a great university resides in its faculty. Establishing an Endowment in honor of Dr. Cobbs will help to ensure that UAB will continue to meet our commitment to excellence in education, research and patient care. For additional information on how you can support the C. Glenn Cobbs, MD, Endowed Support Fund, please contact:

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