

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact(s): Christopher Kerr
VP, Marketing
Earnhardt Auto Centers

602-317-3049

Chris.Kerr@earnhardt.com

Family honors Tex Earnhardt's wishes – ensuring the community that supported Earnhardt, is supported *BY* Earnhardt

Mesa, Arizona ... Tuesday, April 21st, 2020

Arizona automotive mogul, business leader and philanthropic icon Tex Earnhardt may have passed away on Sunday but the Earnhardt Family is wasting no time honoring his wishes; to give back to the communities and people that helped make "Earnhardt" what it is, today.

"We talked a lot about this in his final days," says sons Hal and Jim Babe Earnhardt, "...and we're making sure we follow-through on his wishes to give back and take care of as many people as we can...and we're just getting started."

Over the years, Tex and the Earnhardt Family have supported the communities of the Valley (and beyond) with countless financial and in-kind donations; helping everyone from the sick and impaired to first responders, teachers, foster children and more. Tex would often say, "**People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care,**" which became a virtual mission statement for the company's philanthropic efforts.

"Our company is based on the values that Tex held dear," say grandsons Dodge, Derby and Bull Earnhardt, "...and *that* includes the spirit of giving. So, we're on a mission to fulfill our grandfather's wishes ...to support the communities that supported our beloved Grandpa Tex for over 68 years; growing our charitable outreach."

On Tuesday April 21st, 2020, the Earnhardt Family will visit the second of many charities in need, making a significant donation of \$75,000 to Child Crisis Center. Child Crisis Center is an organization that Tex and the Earnhardts hold dear. The Earnhardt Family will visit Child Crisis Center at 604 W. 9th Street, in Mesa, AZ to personally present the donation at 11:00am.

"Tex loved our community, our people ...the people of Arizona and the southwest. He'd come into a room and it'd be brighter with him there. And while he can't be here now, we're not going to waste any time making sure that his light shines on those who need it most; especially in these trying times," say sons Hal and Jim Babe Earnhardt. "We're sorry he's gone and we miss him dearly. But we're here to make sure we carry on his love for our community... to *ensure* he lives-on in *all of us*; and in the mission of Earnhardt Auto Centers to support our people, our communities and those in need."

###

Earnhardt Auto Centers is one of the oldest and largest privately-owned auto dealer groups in the United States. Today, Earnhardt Auto Centers is ranked as a Top Dealer Group (by Automotive News) and operates 21 dealerships in Arizona and 2 dealerships in Nevada (as of April 2020), representing 17 brands. Hal Earnhardt, Jr. (“Tex”) founded the company in Chandler, AZ in 1951 and today multiple generations of the Earnhardt family are involved with day-to-day operations and corporate oversight. Tex Earnhardt, the family patriarch, passed away from natural causes at the age of 89 on April 19th, 2020. His family continues to run the company as Tex would have wanted.

- End -