

President's Award



Bud and Dot Adams

**Nominated by
United Way of St. Lucie County and
Indian River State College Foundation**

Devoted to St. Lucie County and to the environment, Bud and Dot have been partners in life, business, and philanthropy for 59 years. Their support of health and human services, the environment, historical and cultural endeavors, and education has been crucial in the development of St. Lucie County.

In 1962, Bud was a founding member of the United Way of St. Lucie County and served on the Board of Directors for three years. Then continued his service as a member of the Board of Trustees until 2007. In 2008, he was presented the organization's Founders Award in recognition of leadership and dedication.

Bud served as a member of the Indian River State College Foundation Board of Directors for 14 years and as its chairman for four years. Bud and Dot have helped dozens of students through scholarships and their support of IRSC facilities including major gifts for five educational buildings. In 1994, IRSC named its first student housing complex the Alto "Bud" Adams, Jr. River Hammock, and in 2003 he was selected as IRSC's Entrepreneur of the Year.

Bud, who picked up a camera at the age of ten, is a very gifted nature photographer. He has generously shared his talent with many local nonprofits. The Adams also host numerous nonprofit events at Adams Ranch, and lend their support by frequently attending other area events. In addition to being a devoted partner, gracious hostess, mother of three boys, and grandmother to 12, Dot has also actively volunteered on committees and as an auxiliary member at the hospital.

Bud and Dot Adams continue to generously support more than 50 area nonprofits each year, and are true friends to our community. Recognizing this, the St. Lucie County Commission declared June 22, 2008 as "Alto L. "Bud" Adams, Jr. Day. They are truly the personification of grace, kindness, and generosity and have enriched the present and future of St. Lucie County.