uncomfortable discussing the business acumen that has allowed him to be a donor today. Ignoring the Schultes’ story, though, would mean losing the chance to bring attention to this couple’s strong belief that people need to get involved and stay involved.

“John is extremely private about his involvement,” says Joaquin Blaya, chairman of UM/Sylvester’s Board of Governors. “But his commitment is unbelievable. His actions are a stronger statement than anything that could be said verbally.”

Since becoming members of the Founders’ Society five years ago and more recently the Ashe Society, John and Judy Schulte have become an impressive force in the fight against cancer. Each year, the Schultes contribute to cancer research in the hope that others will benefit from their gifts. Their goal is to renew their Founders’ Society membership each and every year.

When John was named to the Board of Governors last year, he renewed his commitment to help improve every facet of cancer care at UM/Sylvester.

“We consider ourselves to be very ordinary people who live very private lives,” John says. “Along the way, we have been blessed to be able to make extraordinary contributions to such an important cause.”

THE SPRING FAMILY

In 1989, Jeanne Spring was diagnosed with squamous cell cancer. Following surgery, chemotherapy, and radiation therapy, multiple complications developed. During the next four years, the Spring family spent endless hours waiting to see the best doctors New York had to offer.

“When a person is informed they have cancer, after the initial shock, they think in terms of finding the best medical care possible. Many think of going North to a well-known hospital,” says husband Richard. “Our personal experiences show this may not be the best. The renowned hospitals are often overcrowded and appointments are difficult to get.”

In 1994, Jeanne and Richard moved to Boca Raton. At that time, Jeanne’s condition worsened, requiring extensive surgery. She was cared for by a number of doctors and hospitals in Boca Raton and Fort Lauderdale—each prescribing different medications and treatments—but her health steadily deteriorated. At that point, everyone had just about given up hope.

At the suggestion of a friend, the Springs scheduled an appointment with a team of physicians at UM/Sylvester. These doctors performed additional surgery, and oversaw her treatments and medications.

The coordinated team approach worked. This team of doctors saved her life. Today Jeanne is cancer-free, enjoying her family and new grandchild.

“No question, the best line of attack is going to a major medical center,” says Richard. “For those living in Florida, UM/Sylvester is the place to go to get the best, state-of-the-art treat-