

## Hon. Robert and Irene Hernandez

Robert and Irene Hernandez with their cheery disposition and willingness to help have become a fixture within the Democratic Party. Their fierce loyalty and dedication to the values and fundamental truths that define the tenants of the Democratic Party have propelled them to volunteer not only for countless candidates which shared the same ideals but to the El Paso County Democratic Party as a whole.

Robert and Irene Hernandez, lifelong El Pasoans, have been married for 54 years and have raised four children, Jeffrey a graduate of Yale University, Ernesto a graduate of Colorado College, Ric a graduate of USC and Sandra who is a corporal with the El Paso Sheriff's Department. They have been blessed with 2 beautiful granddaughters Devyn and Syndney and strive to instill the same passion and principles to a new generation of Democrats within their family.

These childhood sweethearts have had different but parallel careers. Both graduated from Jefferson High School, both worked for Farah, and ultimately both found a home at the County Clerk's office until retirement. Robert has continued to work after retirement as a substitute teacher for the Gadsden Independent School District.

Love of community runs deep in the Hernandez household, despite trying to balance family and career, the Hernandez's have always found a way to work towards improving their community. Robert has volunteered his time towards helping the Special Olympics, served as high school official, a coach, and has manned the shot clock for the Lady Miners for over 25 years. Irene has not only been by Robert's side during his service to our community but she has served as a den mother for the Cub Scouts and was, along with Robert, members of their children's high school booster club.

While always considering themselves strong democrats, their participation in local politics was sparked by the late City Representative Chalio Acosta and the late County Commissioner Mickey Solis, both of whom approached them about participating in their campaigns one evening as they sat around talking in their backyard. The experience proved to be a rewarding one and since then they have both endeavored to make a difference. Robert worked as Precinct Judge for 26 years and has for the past 6 years served as the Democratic Chair of Precinct 42. His wife never far from his side has made her time and talents available to numerous campaigns and Democratic fundraisers.

Whether it is phone banking, walking precincts, electioneering or simply rolling enchiladas for the annual fundraiser, Robert and Irene tireless efforts should serve as the standard by which all Democrats should be measured.