The Temple University Alumni Association presents the 2015 F. Eugene Dixon, Jr. Inspiration Award to Leon and Irene Greenspan for their loyal support and valued patronage of the University's intercollegiate athletic teams and their belief in the importance of athletics in the representation of the University and in the growth and development of students as individuals and citizens.

The son of Russian immigrants, Mr. Greenspan was not the first or the last Greenspan to attend Temple University. His father, Joseph Greenspan, arrived in the United States in 1924 and learned the English language while attending night school at Temple. Leon and Irene’s son, Michael, is an alumnus of Temple, as is Michael’s wife, Diane.

Upon graduating from the College of Liberal Arts in 1955 with a Bachelor of Arts degree and distinction in economics and finance, Mr. Greenspan continued on to the Temple University Beasley School of Law, graduating with a Juris Doctor degree in 1958. Since this prestigious beginning, Mr. Greenspan has been successfully representing clients in a wide range of legal practice areas from the office of Greenspan & Greenspan in White Plains, New York.

Reflecting on his time here at Temple, Mr. Greenspan noted his and his wife’s donations to Temple have been out of gratitude for what the University has done for their family, and in hope to aid future, hardworking students of modest means who otherwise would be unable to afford a college education.

The Greenspan’s established the Joseph Greenspan Memorial Scholarship in honor of his late father. Mr. Greenspan has been the Joseph Hutton Owl Award winner and a member of the Owl Club and its board of directors, and was most recently co-chairman of the 50th Anniversary Reunion for the Law School Class of 1958. This reunion coincided with a very successful drive to raise funds for the school.

The Greenspan’s have been longtime generous Temple benefactors to such Temple projects as the Edberg-Olsen Football Practice Facility, the Liacouras Center and the Beasley School of Law. Their support, both monetary and via their physical presence is invaluable. It is rare for Mr. and Mrs. Greenspan to miss a home game, whether football or men's basketball, making the long drive from West Chester, NY regularly. They have been long-time season ticket holders, and Mr. Greenspan still amazes his fellow seat mates with his ability to track game stats without aid of a pencil and paper — and, he is always right! They are active in the NYC chapter of the Temple University Alumni Association as well. The Greenspan’s can be found at the annual Jazz at Lincoln Center concert supporting student musicians, and Mr. Greenspan is always an engaged attendee at the annual Coaches Caravan event, winning Temple Athletics trivia contests as well as asking important and interesting questions of our coaches. He engages with the young alumni who attend, which serves as a gateway for their future involvement. The Greenspan’s have opened their home for events, having hosted receptions for NY area football players and fans as well as incoming students over the years. The Greenspan’s have actively and effectively promoted athletics through loyal support and valued patronage of the athletics program, and through those commitments, proven an inspiration to others in their interest and support of athletics at Temple.