



Women's Legacy Award
HONORING AGGIE WOMEN

Laura Dean Mooney '82



Laura Dean Mooney's impact has reached deep into the soul of A&M and has influenced the lives of countless Aggie Women – born and unborn. Laura's daughter, Tara Dean, who was only 8 months old when her father was killed, is a student at TAMU, Class of 2013. Laura is married to Dr. Karl Mooney, Director of Advising for TAMU General Academic Programs.

On November 21, 1991, Laura's husband, Mike Dean, was killed by a drunk driver just north of Ft. Worth and left her a young widow and a single mom. As a result, she has been able to use this tragedy to positively affect millions of families around the world. She turned her personal tragedy into a force for good and as such has affected, and saved, countless lives.

Laura served as National President for Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) and was their official spokesperson from 2008–2011. She delivered MADD's messages through speaking engagements, media interviews and written communication. These messages were developed and delivered as legislative testimony to further MADD's mission, including three appearances before U.S. Congressional committees.

During her tenure as MADD President, Laura addressed more than 50 million television viewers/radio listeners/newspaper and magazine readers/online readers with MADD's message resulting in increased awareness of the organization's mission and programs. Through her work, she has influenced many lives and has improved the delivery of services to those individuals affected by drunk driving. She has also been directly, or indirectly, responsible for increasing awareness of underage drinking and alcohol abuse.