



APSU PHILANTHROPIST OF THE YEAR

RON AND ANDREA MORTON

H&R Block Franchise Owners

Ronald L. Morton is a 1970 graduate of the Austin Peay College of Behavioral and Health Sciences and a former student-athlete for the APSU Track and Field team. In his freshman year, he set a school record for the three mile and was named the school's "Leading Runner" by the APSU newspaper, *The All State*.

After graduation, Ron worked as a basketball coach and physical education teacher in Tunisia through the Peace Corps. He is now the owner of the largest number of H&R Block franchises in the country, with offices in South Carolina and others scattered across Tennessee, West Virginia, Ohio and Indiana.

In 2012, Ron and his wife Andrea established the Ronald L. Morton Scholarship for student-athletes who are majoring in business and have established their community involvement and entrepreneurial ambitions. In 2020, the couple made a transformational monetary commitment to the APSU Department of Athletics for the APSU Track and Field, Cross Country and Men's Basketball teams, as well as athletic scholarships and the department as a whole.

Through their generosity, Ron and Andrea's gifts continue to support APSU student-athlete success and help to further the "Total Gov Concept." In 2022, the Austin Peay State University Board of Trustees approved the naming of the Ron and Andrea Morton Family Track located inside Fortera Stadium to honor their commitment to the University and the APSU Department of Athletics.