The Harwood Collection was endowed by Vinton B. Yardley and his wife, Marjorie, longtime friends of the University, in honor of Notre Dame comptroller G. Edward Harwood. A certified public accountant, the Irish-born Harwood was comptroller of Pepsi Cola Co. before coming to Notre Dame in 1948. He served as the University’s comptroller from 1952 to 1967. He was also president of the Indiana College and University Business Officers Association; a member of the board of directors and the executive committee of the board of the National Federation of College and University Business Officers Association; president of the Central Association of College and University Business Officers; a member of the board of directors of the Midwestern University Research Association; and a member of the tax committee of the American Council on Education. In South Bend, he was a member of the Rotary Club and the South Bend-Mishawaka Chamber of Commerce.

The Harwood Endowment supports research within the Mendoza College of Business, the Kellogg Institute for International Studies, and the Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies at Notre Dame by providing materials in internationalization, equities-enhancement programs, and a wide range of corporate and business data. It also assists in the acquisition of resources that further enable research in global economic development and related areas.

The Yardleys have also established The Lawrence and Helen Baldinger Endowed Library Collection in Critical Technologies in Medicine at the Named level.