Norman B. Jenkins was a student at Notre Dame from seventh grade through his junior year in high school, the year the University discontinued its pre-college program. He later established the Vortex Oil and Gas Corporation in Richmond, Indiana, a retail automobile service station business. He also founded and served as president of the United Oil and Gas Corporation, William H. Turner Realty Corporation, Medical Arts Corporation, American Bowling Lanes Corporation, and Noel Totiteropa, Incorporated.

In 1932, Norman married Elaine Price. Active in the church, Norman was a member of the Knights of Columbus, and Elaine was a member of St. Mary’s Guild in Richmond. They are survived by five children—Thomas, Terrence, Rodger (‘60), Patricia, and Timothy (‘63)—as well as eight grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

The Jenkins Endowment is highly versatile in its support of the growth of the Hesburgh Libraries. It is used to supplement the reference collection in business and has underwritten the multimedia Newsbank Business Supplement, a tool widely used by faculty and students of the Mendoza College of Business and many others in the Notre Dame community. Moreover, it fills in missing volumes in sets such as Research in Personnel and Human Resources Management from the JAI Press; and it supports collection development in unexpected hot topic areas when new research initiatives are undertaken by individual scholars, groups, or departments.