It’s a long way from Norman, Okla. to Cambridge, Mass., but for two recent Price College alumni, the journey is the natural culmination of years of hard work — together. From their first date in Miami during the 2005 Orange Bowl, to their recent acceptances to Harvard University — she to Harvard Law and he to Harvard Business School — it has been straight shooting toward success for Heath and Sarah Flowers.

As students in Price College, both excelled in academics. A Regents’ Scholar, Steed Scholar and Honors College Peer Mentor, Sarah was named an Outstanding Freshman, Outstanding Senior in Price College and graduated summa cum laude with her bachelor’s degree in accounting. Heath was named the 2006-2007 Outstanding Energy Student and received numerous scholarships for both energy management and management information systems, his two majors. Outside of their studies, both were proud to show their OU spirit — Sarah as a member of the Pride of Oklahoma, and Heath as an equipment manager for the Sooners football team.

After graduating from Price College, the couple moved to Austin, Texas, where Sarah earned her master’s degree and Heath spent time working for an oil and gas exploration company. Both native Texans - Heath hailing from Canadian and Sarah from Irving - the couple felt quite at home in Austin, and described living there as “a wonderful experience.” Sarah planned to continue her education in accounting, but soon realized it was not her true passion.

“Heath was actually the first person to suggest that law might be a good fit for my personality and background in financial reporting,” she says. “Once accepted, I decided Harvard Law School was an opportunity I just couldn’t walk away from.” After Harvard, she plans to practice law “either in regulatory and securities litigation, or business finance and restructuring, either of which would be a good fit with my background as a CPA.”

Chris Knapp, Glen McLaughlin Chair in Business Ethics and professor of accounting, is far from surprised by his former student’s success. He describes Sarah as “very inquisitive” and having “unlimited potential.”

After the 2005 OU vs. OSU home football game - Heath served as an equipment manager for the football team and Sarah was a member of the Pride of Oklahoma.
Steve Long, director of Energy Management in Price College, remembers Heath for his determination to succeed. Before the couple moved to Austin, Heath came to him for advice on job opportunities. “I told him that you could probably count the number of energy companies in Austin on one hand and they would probably be staffed with Longhorns,” Long says. “But with his fortitude and Sooner spirit, he landed a great job with Brigham Exploration.”

As someone who has “always been intrigued by energy exploration and production,” Heath has very specific plans on where he’d like to go with his career after Harvard Business School. “I hope to focus in analyzing opportunities within the energy industry, as well as other commodity-based markets, in order to quantify opportunities to businesses and investors, and potentially pursue some of these opportunities myself along the way,” he says.

Both Sarah and Heath agree that their years in Price College helped set the stage for the winning team they’ve become. “Our time there helped us learn to manage our schedules and support each other in our academic endeavors, which will definitely make our transition back into school together more manageable as familiar territory,” they say. “Being business students of different disciplines while at OU allowed us to have meaningful intellectual interactions with each other outside the classroom and really sharpen each other as we shared our ideas and our passions. Working together to finish our bachelor’s degrees really made us into the fiercely pragmatic team that we are today.

“Going to Harvard together is going to be our most exciting adventure so far … Having never lived north of Norman, Massachusetts is going to be the beginning of a very different chapter of our lives — one we hope will be full of other adventures we haven’t even imagined yet.”

Heath and Sarah Flowers, shown here in front of Baker Library, visited Harvard Business School after Heath was admitted to the MBA program.