



Gary Lee Gingrich

January 30, 1948 - July 21, 2022

Gary Lee Gingrich, age 74 of Lewes, DE, passed away on July 21, 2022, surrounded by his family, exactly as he would have wanted it. He was born on January 30, 1948, in Lebanon, PA, son of the late George and Elizabeth (Shelly) Gingrich.

Gary graduated from Lebanon High School in 1966. He began his career at the VA Hospital in Lebanon, PA and went on to become a certified respiratory therapist, working at both the VA Hospital and WellSpan Good Samaritan Hospital for a combined 40+ years. The last 10 years he performed sleep studies at the WellSpan Good Samaritan Hospital Sleep Center.

Gary met Patricia when she was just 16 and a waitress at Brooks restaurant in Lebanon, PA. He claims it was love at first sight, and they went on to marry 3 years later and raise a beautiful family together.

Gary was a man characterized by his deep love of his family and his desire to bring a smile to anyone's face: friend or stranger. He was well known for his wicked sense of humor, quick wit, and desire to bring joy to others. Gary would dress up as Santa Claus around Christmas and surprise friends and families with toys and treats. Those that were his Facebook friends came to look forward to his daily posted jokes with anticipation and ultimately, a groan. There was not a server in any destination that he visited, that was not asked if they wanted to see his ID to make sure he was 21 before ordering a drink. Gary would consider it a good day if he could make just one person smile.

In addition to his parents, Gary was preceded in death by his brother, Gordon Gingrich (Marie); and his grandson, Benjamin Gingrich.

Gary is survived by his beloved wife of 51 years, Patricia (Reish) Gingrich; his children: Todd Gingrich (Jessica) of Lebanon, PA and Melissa Gingrich, (Andrew Hayes) of Brigantine, NJ; his grandchildren: Reagan and Mia; and his sister Judy (Gingrich) Fields (Sam) of Lebanon, PA.

Services will be private.

Please sign the virtual guestbook located on the tribute page.

Tribute Wall

MK

“ One of my favorite people at the VA. He was always upbeat and had a funny story or joke to brighten my day. His smile and laugh was a joy to behold. Heaven is getting a truly good man. Peace and hugs for his family.

Marilyn Kohr - August 24 at 06:55 AM

AD

“ My condolences to all the family. Another shining star has dimmed from our class of 1966. His love and humor will be truly missed. But his star rises above and goes to his Heavenly home. God bless you Gary and thank you for the love you have shown to many.

Alfred Daubert - July 29 at 08:28 AM

FA

“ Pat, Todd, Missy, RJ, Mia, and Judy, and family,
It is with much sadness that I send you our heartfelt sympathy. Gary and I were "favorite" cousins, neighbors, and friends. We shared the same sense of humor and often, when we talked on the phone, we laughed until neither of us could talk. Like his dad, George, he could entertain a room full of people for hours. Gary used his happiness and his humor to make others happy. The world needs more people like him.
Thank you for such wonderful memories, Gary!
Missed by Dale and Betsy, Joyce and Scott, and Jim and Faye

Faye Aurand - July 27 at 06:47 PM

BS

“ Our sincerest sympathy to Gary's family. Fond memories of him being our neighborhood Santa. Sincerely, Mike & Bonnie Shay

Bonnie Shay - July 27 at 03:37 PM

AN

“ As you will hear time and time again, it is impossible to think of Gary and not smile. I worked at Good Samaritan, also. Gary was priceless. He took wonderful care of his patients and brightened every person's day, every day. Rest in peace, Gary.
Ann

Ann - July 27 at 10:54 AM

DB

Gary and my brother were best friends growing up in West Lebanon. Garry had a way of making a bad day funny. He was one of the nicest sincere person I ever met. I was blessed to have been part of his world all those years ago. God rest Gary.

Doris Schaeffer Belanger - July 27 at 01:16 PM

CM

“ *To the Family of Gary Prayers, I was in Gary Class, Connie Mills*



Constance Mills - July 27 at 01:27 AM

LZ

“ *I worked with Gary at the Good Samaritan Hospital, he was one of the nicest men I have ever met, he and I always joked about something, he gave the best care to his patients and always made them laugh and I know that because my mother was one of the patients he took care of with a sleep study test, I will miss him along with so many others, RIP Gary*

Lucy Zeiders - July 27 at 01:01 AM

AN

“ *Gary was always in good spirits at work at the VA. A lot of fun. SUCH A KIND SOUL!!! Our deepest sympathies, Annette & Doug Leiby.*



Annette - July 26 at 09:31 PM

DH

“ *I worked with Gary at the VA, often on night shift. He always kept us all in a good mood with his great attitude and unusual humor! Gary always spoke about his family with love. Thoughts and prayers to all of you. Diana Hromco*

Diana Hromco - July 26 at 08:17 PM

GD

“ My deepest sympathy to Pat, Todd, Missy, and families We were neighbors for many years and there was never a dull moment when Gary was around. I loved the way he would always devil Jackie when they were out in the yards together. And the many times he came to the house as Santa, even after you moved to Denver. He was a great neighbor, friend, and above all a great person. He was a true friend to all that knew him. Gary Dohner

Gary Dohner - July 26 at 07:32 PM

KM

“ Whenever I think of Gary I can't help but smile. He was always laughing and making others laugh. The world has lost one of the good ones. Mashie and I send our sincere sympathy to you Pat as well as Todd, Missy and their families.

katie Mihalko - July 26 at 06:37 PM

AJ

“ So sorry to hear of Gary's passing. I worked with him at Lebanon VA where I was an ICU nurse. He was such a kind, caring person who brought a smile to everyone's face. Don & I have fond memories of Gary & Pat. Sending Love, Ann Jones

Ann Jones - July 26 at 06:01 PM

DJ

“ Pat and Family: Lynn and I are very sorry and sad to loss a good friend. Gary and I were very good friends in the 1970's. We met at the Lebanon Jaycees and served as officers during that time. Gary honored us as 'Bestman" at our wedding in October 1976. Lynn and I had so much fun with both of you. All we did was laugh. What a great time. Blessings - Dave and Lynn Balmer

David R. Balmer, Jr. - July 26 at 05:18 PM



“ I was two years younger than Gary, but spent a lot of time with him growing up. Gary was a horror film fan, several of us guys went along with him into the Colonial and Academy Theaters. We also used to have sleep-outs in Gary's backyard in the summer, when he entertained us with stories and jokes ALL night long. He could always make us laugh. RIP old friend, Tracy Sipe

George Sipe - July 26 at 05:07 PM

RM

“ To Gary's family, I will miss Gary and all the fun we had years ago. He was my best friend. I was glad I knew Gary and I will miss him. My prayers are with you Pat and family. rick Miller

gary

richard miller - July 26 at 04:57 PM

JT

“ Patty, I am so sorry to hear of Gary's passing. He fought a long hard battle and is now in a beautiful place with no pain. I remember so many years ago our family visiting you and Gary. He was a kind, generous man who loved to share joy to those around him. Our sincere prayers and condolences to you and your family. JoEllen Thompson and Jerry Stover, Cape Coral, Florida.

JoEllen Thompson - July 26 at 03:33 PM

MM

“ To Gary's family, we offer our sincerest sympathies and prayers. Will miss his always present positive attitude, sense of humor, and smile.

Mike and Vicki Mohl

Michael A. Mohl - July 26 at 03:29 PM

SG

“ Will always remember his kindness, sense of humor, and love of friends and family. Loved watching him in skits at our class of 66 reunions. Rest In Peace my dear friend! Stephanie gawrys

stephanie gawrys - July 26 at 01:50 PM

KR

“ Everyday working with Gary at Lebanon VAMC I knew was going to be a good day. I never heard him utter a negative comment. He was always cheerful. He had a fantastic sense of humor. R.I.P. Gary. I express my condolences to his family in this their hour of grief. Joe Ream

Koseph Ream - July 26 at 01:09 PM

MM

“ Prayers for Gary and his family. He was an exceptional person. Always good for a laugh. Never saw him in a bad mood. The world lost a great person. Rest In Peace Gary. We will meet again. Marsha

Marsha Mindler - July 26 at 01:00 PM