



## Gary E. Rexroat

May 25, 1948 - July 18, 2020

GARY EDWARD REXROAT, 72, of Trenton, Florida passed away Saturday, July 18, 2020 after an extended illness.

He was born in Somerset, KY on May 25, 1948 to Ralph and Unema Rexroat. He was a member of the first Physician Assistants Program and the first graduating class of the Physician Assistance program at Duke University in 1972. Gary came to work at the University of Florida and later transferring into the U of F Rural Medical Program with his first rotation in Cross City, transferring to Trenton to expand the Rural Medical Program. After leaving the Rural Medical Program he co-started the Chiefland Medical Center (with Ted Burt and Tammie Sanders). After selling the practice he went back to the University of Florida, to the U.F. Health Clinic in Old Town and later moved back to Chiefland Medical Center.

Gary served 4 years in the U. S. Navy as a Corman serving in Vietnam and receiving a Bronze Star and 3 Purple Hearts and then served 10 years in the U S. Army Reserves as a Warrant Officer. He was a member of the American Legion, William T. Carlton Masonic Lodge #46 in Trenton, the Physician Assistants Association serving as its 1st president, Health Planning Council, served on the Gilchrist County School Board for 20 years, and earned the Gilchrist County Lifetime Achievement Award.

His hobbies included hunting, fishing, sitting on the back porch and spending time with his family.

He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Gwenda Rexroat of Trenton, FL; son Matthew (Jillian) Rexroat of Trenton, FL and grandchildren, Jaxson, Jayson, Isaiah, Trey, Zachery, Emily, Matthew and Zackary; brother, Alonzo Rexroat of SanDiego, CA, and sister Marie Rexroat of Quantico, VA. He was preceded in death by his parents and sister Vickie Lynn Wade.

A visitation will be held Tuesday evening, July 21, 2020 between the hours of 5 and 8pm at the Trenton High School Auditorium, 1013 N. Main St. Trenton, FL 32693. Interment will be held at Free Union Separate Baptist Church Cemetery in Columbia, KY. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers the family has requested that donations be made to Tri-County Haven Hospice, 311 NE 9th Street, Chiefland, FL 32626.

Arrangements have been placed under the care of Rick Gooding Funeral Home Cross City, Florida 352-498-5400 and Chiefland, Florida 352-493-0050. Please sign the online guest book at [rickgoodingfuneralhomes.com](http://rickgoodingfuneralhomes.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ Gary E. Rexroat

October 08, 2023 at 10:03 PM



“ Gary E. Rexroat

January 30, 2023 at 01:26 AM

RM

*Me and my family called him Dr Gary I am the father of three children and we all wound up with Dr Gary as our main doctor in Trenton for 10 years and Dr Gary saved my youngest daughter's life Melissa and he was the first physician to diagnose my ischemic heart disease around 1985 and we all loved Dr Gary all my friends in Trenton also loved him I am saddened to hear of his passing I will always remember him thank you Dr Gary for being there for me and my family*

Richard Meyer - March 12, 2023 at 12:02 PM

RD

“ *Dr. Gary has always been a Great Friend and Doctor to me and my wife Diane. We loved him so much. He always had time to talk when we went to see him. I remember our fishing trips together and our times at Camp Deadeye. Our thoughts and prayers are with Gwen and Matthew and the grandkids. Heaven certainly got a SPECIAL ANGEL!!!*

*Randy & Diane Durden*

Randy Durden - July 31, 2020 at 11:05 AM

HT

“ One of the most loving, honest, trusting & dedicated “ Doctors” as everybody knew him as Dr.Gary in Trenton. He would make house calls after hours as I remember he stitched my hand on a W/E as I cut it w/ a can top.My children had strept one W/E and he came to the house and called in antibiotics for them, knowing they could be much sicker, if they waited 2 days, till his office was open. We had gone to Church with Gary & Gwen for 20yrs. Along with there son, Matt. There were the most loved family as Gwen is and Angel, Matt is a Paramedic, you could see the love in Gwen &’Matts eyes, when they were all together. In the 40 yrs. I had known him, he had never raised his voice once . That, to me, speaks volumes of how “Godly “Gary Rexroate was. He will be missed as he was loved by all. I know Gary is looking down on the love of his life, as they were always together. I pray one day, we will all be together again. Until then, I’m happy you are not suffering and you are in a place many of us pray we will be. God Bless, Dr. Gary❤️🌹

Heidi Templeton - July 26, 2020 at 11:46 PM

AH

“ Gwen, I am so sorry for your loss. Praying comfort for you today and the days ahead. Have so many good memories with you growing up. Love Anita (Jones) Hisle



Anita Hisle - July 23, 2020 at 01:09 PM

JW

“ I wipe the tears from my eyes as I write this. Gary Rexroat was a good friend and wonderful clinician at our UF Community Health and Family Medicine clinic.

When he returned to UF as a physicians assistant for the Fanning Springs and then the Old Town Clinics I was the person he talked to in Community Health and Family Medicine about what his projection for number of patient visits could be in a year. He was very confident that he could increase our patient base and he assured me that he would "make the numbers." In that short interview, I was sure we had a wonderful, dedicated, caring addition to the healthcare team at our then only rural clinic.

I was the administrator and he the physicians assistant who saw one another at quarterly clinic meetings. At these meetings a team of staff met with clinic manager and clinicians to discuss patient visits, revenue and expenses for the clinic. Dr. Gary was right. Those patient visit numbers amazed our team and even better our upper management.

Memories of our times together will continue to keep Gary Rexroat alive in our hearts.

Judy Walch  
Retired, Nov 2012  
Director, Medical/Health Administration  
Department of Community Health and Family Medicine  
University of Florida

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Judith Walch - July 22, 2020 at 01:20 PM

LT

“ Dr. Gary was so much more than our physician, he was our friend, whether we were living in Florida or in Tennessee. We will never forget the kindness and caring that he always showed, and his smile was very special.

*Albert (Romey) and Louise Tidwell*

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**Louise Tidwell** - July 22, 2020 at 07:03 AM

HT

*He was one in a Million. ❤️*

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**Heidi Templeton** - July 26, 2020 at 11:48 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Gary E. Rexroat.*



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July 21, 2020 at 10:26 PM

GH

“ *Gary was my doctor since he first came to Trenton Med Center in the 70's. He was an awesome person, and well respected by many doctors in Gainesville. He will be sorely missed. Kermit and Gail Hilliard*

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**Gail Hilliard** - July 21, 2020 at 07:15 PM

BF

“ *I got to spend time in Gary and Gwen's home last year on a visit. Such a gracious host and hostess. Prayers for Gwen, Matt, and rest of the family. RIP*

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**Brenda Fox** - July 21, 2020 at 06:19 PM

RC

“ I met Dr Gary in Trenton about 40 yrs ago I was having some problems and my Dr then did not seem to understand my problem.. Gary knew right off it was Postpartum Depression and he talked with me and gave me the med's I needed.He was a gift from God to me.And from that day until now he has been mine and my daughters Dr. Later the depression came back several time and he was always there to talk me down and give me the support needed. I can truly say if it were not for this amazing kind gentle man I would not be alive today.He knew how lost I was and he kept me coming back until I was over the danger and back to being myself again.It breaks my heart to know he will not be there anymore. He will never be replaced in my life. I was so blessed to have had him in my life. My heart goes out to his family,the loss it truly great. He was a great Doctor and a wonderful person....I will miss you Dr Gary

RHONDA S CHANDLER - July 21, 2020 at 04:18 PM

SP

“ Dr. Gary was always my favorite he always had a smile and good advice. He will be missed. Prayers for the family.

sheila Perwitz - July 21, 2020 at 02:02 PM

 Janice Grant

“ Gary was a wonderful friend and he will be truly missed by all who know him!

J Grant

Janice Grant - July 21, 2020 at 01:39 PM

CK

Dr. Gary you will be truly miss you weren't just a Doctor to our family also a friend R.I.P Carolyn Kearney

Carolyn Kearney - July 22, 2020 at 06:17 AM

SB

*Gary was the nicest kindest person I knew  
A lot of years as my dr. I will miss him dearly*

Sandra Buchholz - July 22, 2020 at 08:25 AM

BE

“ *Dr Gary he was the best friend and doctor  
And he always listened to what I had to say  
your a amazing man Brenda Eldridge*



Brenda Eldridge - July 21, 2020 at 10:24 AM

RB

“ *I'm so sorry for your Loss. Gary saved MY Life  
back in June 2004. I moved to Okeechobee FL  
and I became real ill and this hospital here  
missed diagnosed me I called Gary and sick as  
I was I drove 3 1/2 hrs to see him. When I got to  
him and he seen me he amulanced me from his  
office to North Florida Hospital and When all test come back Gary  
said you have the worst case of Lupus I've seen in years not  
knowing anything about the disease he took the time to explain it to  
me and got me started on the meds to treat it. If it wasn't for him I  
would have not made it, and I THANKED GOD FOR BLESSING Me  
With Such a Blessed Great Doctor and He will Truly Truly be  
Missed. RENAE Richardson Hall*



RENAE Richardson BILLIE - July 21, 2020 at 07:43 AM

DH

“ We pray for comfort for Gwen and Matthew and send our prayers and condolences, words can't describe our love for Gary, may he Rest In Peace.



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**D. Ray & Diana Harrison** - July 21, 2020 at 07:22 AM

JW

“ Heaven got a wonderful man Saturday. My thoughts & prayers are with you Gwen & Matt.

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**Janice Wood** - July 21, 2020 at 05:03 AM

CH

“ Dr Gary was surely one amazing doctor and person and friend and he will surely be missed by so many people his family are surely in my thoughts and prayers during this time til we meet again rip my friend Dr Gary.

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**Christopher** - July 20, 2020 at 11:31 PM

EE

“ I too considered Gary a friend. He was also our family physician. All 3 of my children grew up visiting Gary as I'm sure a lot of children did in Gilchrist and surrounding counties. Gary was such a kind compassionate person. I saw him for the last time in Ayers Nursing facility and he was optimistic and positive. Reassuring me that he was “gonna beat this thing”. I was able to give him a hug. I will carry Gary in my heart and pray for his family. He will be sorely missed. Very few men have the qualities of Gary.

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**Eva Erwin** - July 20, 2020 at 09:58 PM

ML

“ *The best of the best*

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**Melissa Lord** - July 20, 2020 at 08:53 PM

PM

“ *I had the pleasure of working with Mr. Gary at Chiefland Medical Center and to love ❤️ and appreciate this very special man that came into my life. He always had a smile on his face and gave freely his knowledge to one and all. I will miss him-very much but I know he is in heaven were he will be needed by the Saviour. God Bless.*

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**Pamala Molloy** - July 20, 2020 at 08:39 PM

AL

“ *One of the Greatest!!! Truly blessed to have been able to know him. He was always there for our family, always had a smile on his face and brightened your day no matter how horrible you felt. He was an angel on Earth and without a doubt I know he's an angel above.*

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**Amanda Langford** - July 20, 2020 at 08:30 PM

JP

“ *It was a Blessing to know Gary through the years especially him being my Dr. in my early years of my life when he was at Trenton Medical Center he would always take time and talk about life in general what was going on in Law Enforcement, hunting ,fishing or our farm work A True Pioneer Of The Community he will be truly missed by many praying for each of you during this time in your life. In Christ, Johnnie Philman*

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**Johnnie Philman** - July 20, 2020 at 08:09 PM

BH

“ I cannot begin to express what a blessing Gary was to our family. He never once made you feel like a patient but a family member who he loved and cared for. He is truly irreplaceable. Sending prayers to his family for peace and comfort during this time.

Brandy Hunt - July 20, 2020 at 07:45 PM

LL

“ Dr Gary has been my Dr for many years and I will miss his compassionate, kind, understanding personality. I don't know how I will ever find another Dr like him. My sincere sympathy to Gwen and the rest of his family at this difficult time. Lorraine Lightner

Lorraine Lightner - July 20, 2020 at 07:15 PM

SS

“ Back in 1986 I seen Gary and Jen Whitley, I thought I had a virus but we took a test and it came back and said I was pregnant with first child and I told both of them no I wasn't and they said I was it was true I will never forget.

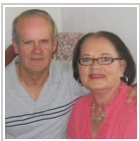


sue smit - July 20, 2020 at 06:55 PM

DL

“ Gary was my kids Dr. My Dr. And best of all my friend . He was just the best guy ever. Very much love too Mrs Gwen and Matt. I will never forget him and count my blessings for having him in my life.

Debbi Mathis Lanier - July 20, 2020 at 06:49 PM



“ My prayers are with all of you. Always loved being around Qwen and Gary.

Reda N Roy Rooks - July 20, 2020 at 06:31 PM

NP

“ Gary was loved by so many people and will be sorely missed. He was my doctor for a number of years and there was no better physician! He was not only my physician, but he was my friend. I knew I could always talk to him! I send prayers to Ms. Gwen and his entire family. May God Bless and keep them always.

Nina Peterson - July 20, 2020 at 05:52 PM

RA

Gary was first my mentor, then my colleague and friend. He taught and practice from a vast knowledge and seemingly limitless compassion. He was a good man who will always be an example of great devotion to his family and community. I am grateful to have known him.

Rita Arrington - July 20, 2020 at 07:26 PM

RA

Gwen and Matt, there is no greater love than the love Gary has for you. May it warm you and heal you when your heart feels cold and broken.

Rita Arrington - July 20, 2020 at 07:29 PM

RD

Amen to that He was my first Dr when I move here I was in so Much pain one day He said I think u have Reummstoid zI not wasting time ur in to much pain He refer me to Dr in Gainesville. They had a long awaiting list ZHe told them no way. She is in major pain and needs to see you yesterday. Two days I was seeing that specialist. Great Dr kind compassionate. The way a Dr should be. He will be missed It was a pleasure knowing him and being his patient

Robin Dalton - July 21, 2020 at 03:49 AM

VB

“ We Have Lived in Our little House Across the street from the Old Town Clinic where Dr.Gary was for Years! In 2017 Iwas referred to get a Cat scan Because The Doctor thought I had a Tumor! It's DR.GARY WHO SAYS I THINK YOU'RE JUST PREGNANT, I WAS ALMOST FOURTY! I have the Scan They are SHOCKED BY IT 4 Doctors are in agreement it's A Baby BOY ELI MACK HE'S BORN JUST 3 MONTHS LATER! TRUTH! DR. GARY SAID WHEN HE CALLED ME AFTER THE SCAN HE TOLD ME THAT IF YOU PLAYED YOU HAVE TO PAY THE FIDDLER! HE Was a Great Blessing to me For years, The picture is our Son Eli Mack That Dr.Gary said We Would have in God's Time Not Our Time in 2008 when the Fertility Doctor said It's not possible! THIS Is A Great Sadness for All who Knew Dr.Gary Rexrout!😭💕THE GREATEST DOCTOR THIS AREA HAS EVER SEEN!My Primary care Doctor For over 12 Years!😭💕A great Blessing to All who Knew Him! He will be Missed Dearly!💕Enjoy Heaven Dr.Gary We Love you!💕 Prayers for All who Greaves His Passing on To have ETERNAL Life in Heaven!



Valarie Charlene Herron Branson - July 20, 2020 at 05:07 PM

TS

Love this story so very much. Thank you for sharing!

tammy ssndrrs - July 20, 2020 at 08:25 PM

PP

“ Gary was one of the best men I have ever known. He was always there for my family and he didn't care what time it was or if we had an appointment. Even when their office started a pediatric practice...he still saw my children. I would call and say I need to make an appointment for my son or daughter and they would say Gary doesn't see pediatric patients. I would tell them ...he sees mine.....and they would put me on hold and come back and say..... he can see you at XXX oclock. First time I saw him after my mom was diagnosed with cancer...he walked into the room and I just started crying and he said...I know. He never made you feel like you were bothering him or that he was in a hurry. I know that the heartbreak I feel is NOTHING compared to his family but I want them to know that there are so so so so many people loving and missing him as well. I pray for the Lord to wrap you in his loving arms and give you the comfort you need.



PAMELA PHILMAN - July 20, 2020 at 04:54 PM

SS

Gary was a Saint! Never a bad word, cared about everyone and loved his family! Missing him is an understatement! The peace that we all have is that we will meet again one day! Gwen and Matt and family our heart aches for you! !  
We love you!  
Jimmy and Susie Slaughter

susie Slaughter - July 20, 2020 at 06:33 PM

DM

Gary in one word, Epic! What an amazing man, made me feel welcome from day one when I moved here 27 years ago! He joked about taking care of us Marines when he was in the Navy. Three years ago when my little brother died in a tragic tree cutting accident, I knocked on his door before I went next door to tell my Mom, I was so worried she would have a heart attack, he gave me a hug and said "your Mom is stronger than you think, but I'll be right here if you need me"! What a wonderful man! May God grant his family peace! 💔

Dawn Marsh - July 20, 2020 at 07:06 PM

EP

*Word has just reached me of Gary's passing. Gary and I went to high school together. We joined the Navy together and endured the hardships of boot camp together. We then went our separate ways in the Navy but were in contact with each other directly or indirectly over the years. I always looked at Gary as my Hero. He loved his country, his family, and his friends. a person of his caliber is hard to find in today's world. He left his mark and the this world is a better place thanks to "Doc" Gary. Gwen ,my prayers and thoughts are with you and the rest of the family. Rest in peace my dear friend.*

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**Eddie Polston** - July 22, 2020 at 08:21 PM

PD

*I'm not surprised to read the glowing tributes above as written by Gary's many patients, staff, family and friends. He was the PA role model I ascribed to be nearly 40 years ago when I was starting out and continued to highly regard these many years later. Gary was a consummate medical professional graced with intelligence, warmth, and a sense of humor, but above all, he exhibited genuine caring for each and every patient. I learned of Gary's passing just today and am deeply saddened for the great loss of all he was to all who knew, loved and/or were served by him. Rest in peace, dear Gary.*

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**Pamela R. Patton, PA, MSP, DFAAPA** - July 23, 2020 at 02:00 AM

NA

*I am shocked and grievously saddened to learn of Gary's passing. He played such a strong role in the development of my career as a PA. He was a model mentor and a dear friend. I could call on him with any question or concern and he was always there with the right words or answer. His skills as a PA were nothing short of amazing. He leaves a huge void in the lives of countless folks that he helped and advised in his gracious and unselfish life. My heart breaks for his family, friends and patients. Now is finally at a well deserved rest. Peace be with you, Gary, and thank you so much for all you gave on this earth.*  
Nancy Thayer

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**Nancy** - July 23, 2020 at 08:31 AM

AG

*We have known Gary since coming to Gainesville 42 years ago. and no better "doctor" has there ever been than PA Gary Rexroat. The roles he has played in the community and lives of so many persons is amazing. Since I work at UF CHFM in college of medicine, as a physician there, I was thrilled when he returned to the dept to work at the Old Towne clinic. He made a tremendous impact wherever he was. I am sure that will be true in heaven.*

*What a loss; there are none like Gary Rexroat, friend and coworker.  
Ann and Gary Grooms*

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**ann and Gary Grooms** - July 25, 2020 at 02:14 PM