



Dr. Gary Steven Dankworth

November 18, 1951 - July 28, 2012

Gary Dankworth began life as an adventurer Nov. 18th, 1951 and continued the adventure until July 28th, 2012. Born in Los Angeles, California to Richard and Carla Dankworth, he moved to Reno in 1955. He graduated from Reno High School in 1969, and received a full-ride scholarship in athletics and academics to the University of Washington, majoring in mechanical engineering. Gary was injured pole vaulting, and while recovering from his injury and undergoing physical therapy, Gary started reading his roommate's medical books and decided to become a doctor. He then went to University of Nevada, Reno for 2 years of medical school, transferring to UC Irvine and graduating with a doctorate in medicine from the University of California, Irvine in 1977. It was during this time, living in Southern California, that he quickly developed a passion for surfing. He completed his internship at UC Davis Medical Center in Sacramento, where he met the love of his life, Ann an RN. They were married on June 24, 1978, the day he completed his internship, and moved together to Redding, California, where Gary completed a 2 year Family Practice Residency program. Gary and Ann started their first practice in Reno, Nevada, joining Gary's family doctor, Dr. Lombardi, who so graciously welcomed them and taught them everything they didn't learn in medical school. A year later, Dr. Brian Sonderegger introduced them to an opportunity in Carson City, Nevada. Gary and Ann joined Family Medical Group in 1981 and moved to Carson City, Nevada. Gary loved the fact that he could ride his bike to work and he only had to make rounds at one hospital, instead of three. In March of 1983, Gary decided to go into solo practice and opened his office on 812 N. Nevada Street, where he faithfully and

The best way to describe Gary is motion in action. As a child, he took apart a pair of roller skates to make a crude skateboard. He hung his brother out the window of the car to see motion in action, and later as an adult, he set a 20 year state records in high school pole vaulting. He continued pole vaulting in college and made the top 8 in NCAA National Championships. Gary also participated in varsity football, basketball and track.

When he felt the wind, he felt God's presence, whether cycling, wind surfing or skiing. His many hikes and climbs filled him with the awe of God's presence and vastness. Gary continually sought the next mountain to summit. His last summit began the morning of July 28th, 2012 after he departed from his climbing friends, going ahead of the group and

setting his backpack at a base camp, he began a solo ascent. After 13 hours of rigorous class IV climbing, he summited Norman Clyde peak and signed the registry at 8:30 pm. As Mark Twain said, “The air up there in the clouds is very pure and fine, bracing and delicious. And why shouldn’t it be? It is the same the angels breathe.” Gary’s victory on top was short, but knowing him, he would have offered up a prayer of thanksgiving and paused in silent wonder before his fatigued body began the descent. His friends expected him at base camp that evening, but he never returned. After five agonizing days of searching, a helicopter located Gary’s deceased body. Circumstances indicate that shortly after reaching the summit, he fell several hundred feet.

Gary’s life was sustained by a deep faith in God, the Creator of all good and beautiful things. He worshiped God in nature and loved to lead and participate in worship with his guitar and musical giftings. This heart of worship has been exemplified in his home and continues to live on in the hearts of his four grown children, Bria, Jason, Quentin and Annelise, all of whom have been involved in missions and leading worship in various capacities.

Gary led his family by example and was an involved, caring and supportive father. He recently shared one of the greatest blessings his life had brought him was being able to watch his children come into adulthood and become his friends, offering encouragement, accountability and advice. His venture as a grandpa had only just begun, it was not uncommon for him to put a grandchild in his backpack for extra weight and take off on an expedition, all the while the grandchildren thought it some wild adventure, talking incessantly. He was intrigued with where life would take his children and grandchildren, and always wanted to be involved with the moving forward of their lives.

We know Gary’s legacy will live on through the many people he touched, especially through his grandson Emery, whose favorite saying is, “Take it to the limit one more time.”

Comments



“ He delivered my 1 st child in 1979. He was such a great caring doctor. I’m really sad to hear he had an accident that took him way too soon. Prayers to all the family.

Rosie McNeely - September 04, 2020 at 04:03 PM



“ I just found out today about this great loss to the world... I was honored to meet Gary (and family)while taking care of Carla at Carson Nursing and rehab.... I am broken hearted the he is gone, the world lost a great Christain, Doctor, Son, Husband, brother,father and friend. God is truly blessed to have Gary, our loss must be Heavens gain.....

Joshua Glover

Joshua Glover - January 13, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ Gary Dankworth was our family physician while we lived in Carson City from 1983-1989. He delivered 2 of our children. We felt blessed to have him as our doctor. We were so very sad to hear the news of his death.

David and Elizabeth Todd - August 28, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ My wife and I were both patients of Dr. Dankworth. We did not know him outside the Doctor-patient relationship, but we are both deeply saddened by his passing. We feel as though we have lost a friend. He was an extremely kind, compassionate, competent doctor and a wonderful, humble, gentle man. We will miss him as both a great doctor and as a fine and loving human being. The world would be a much better place with more people like Gary Dankworth.

Mike Droege - August 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ God bless you.

Mike lottl

Mike Lott - August 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ We offer our condolences to the Dankworth family. Gary was our physician and Ann became my friend when we lived in Carson City.

The Carson City community has lost a valued member.

Patsy & Kraig Schutte

Patsy Schutte - August 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ RIP Dr. Gary Dankworth, our heartfelt condolences go out to your family. You were an incredibly strong skier and mountaineer and you always left me in the dust on our backcountry sojourns. You knew better than anyone that the line between Heaven and the High Sierra is remarkably thin. I hope this note finds you summiting peaks on the other side.

Jonathan Mueller - August 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ I was deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Dr. Dankworth. My heart goes out to each & everyone of you. He was a wonderful man of a wonderful family. I was an RN at CTRMC and whenever I worked with Dr. Dankworth, he was very considerate, kind & compassionate.

May God's strong love give you comfort and peace.

Marilyn Maruca - August 19, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Ann my heart goes out to you and your family. Although I only met Gary once, at Jann's, his smile would light up a room. Now I'm sure he smiling down from Heaven.

May your faith give you peace. He made it to the top and saw God, I'm sure the step down was swift & pain-free as his soul was lifted up again.

He is among the angels, as he so care for those on earth. Love to you and your family, Kalena

Kalena Thiessen - August 14, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Anne,

Shirley and I just found out about Gary's death from Larry Boll. We are so sorry. May the Lord comfort and encourage you in your suffering and sustain you in the days ahead.

Craig & Shirley McCluskey - August 14, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ You were a great man and have such an awesome family. I cannot even begin to grasp what life without you must be like for them. Although, it takes weight off my heart just knowing that you are in a better place.

Michael Suppe - August 14, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ As the son of Richard & Wendy McConnell, I'll always remember and Thank You, Dr. Dankworth - for your many years of compassion & service in caring for my parents. You are already missed. God Bless.

-Andrew Dane McConnell

Andrew D. McConnell - August 14, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ As you comprehend this profound loss, let yourself cry knowing each tear is a note of Love rising to the Heavens.

With deep-felt sympathy, Love and remembrance,

Elise Anderson

Elise Anderson - August 14, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ You were so kind, gentle and nonjudgemental of me and my family when we moved to Carson City in 2005. You were our light in the storm. Dr. Dankworth, I will never forget your grace as a doctor. Our family misses you. You will not be forgotten, I promise.

Melisa Maxey - August 14, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ I remember how impressed I was that he had ridden his bicycle from CarsonCity to our patrol refresher at Boulder one year. He just smiled - just another day on the bike.

Barbara Wood - August 14, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ A sympathy card has been sent to the family of Dr. Gary Steven Dankworth.

August 14, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Our thoughts are with you as you deal with Gary's transition. Know that another place is better for his presence as much as our world is deminished by his lose. With love.

Stan & Teresa Mentzer

Stan & Teresa Mentzer - August 14, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Gary - we will miss your light.

sandy, Tim, JP and Katie McFarren - August 14, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Such a bright light in our community. My heart-felt condolences to Dr. dankworth's family and friends, coworkers and patients.

Lisa Kus - August 14, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ There are no words to describe my sorrow hearing of the loss of the greatest family doctor ever & amazing man. I still have a heavy heart with many tears just from knowing I will have no chance to be his patient again. He delivered my son 30 years ago now and the only doctor since. Blessings, Love & Comfort To All His Family

Connie (Lewis) Petritz - August 13, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Gary and I became Ski Patrollers together. I will miss being with him "on the hill."

Becca Harper Cunningham - August 13, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Dr. Dankworth was our families doctor for 30 years. He took care of me as a child, and continued taking care of my parents and grandmother after I had moved away. He was always kind, compassionate, and thoughtful in his practice....a trait not always found in a physician. We believed he really cared a about our lives, it was not just an act. May God welcome him into the kingdom and may he soar on wings of eagles for all eternity.

Marla Johns - August 13, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Gary was not only a dear friend, a brother in Christ but also was my Doctor. Thanks to Gary I am alive today and doing very well. Gary, his wife Ann, and his family and my family and I used to travel to Fort Bragg California and dive for Abalone. Those were the good old days and I will never forget the great times we had diving together. After recently moving back to Reno from the East Coast, my goal was to thank Gary for saving my life, but never got the chance to do so. He will be greatly missed, but we all know he is now with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

My prayers go out to Ann, and all of the Dankworth family.

Bob and Lehia MinterCB

Bob Minter - August 13, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ I worked for Gary for several years. He was a very good man. I will miss seeing him around in the hospital . Rest in peace, Gary. I know you are with God.

Mandy Henningsen - August 13, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Our hearts are grieving with yours today as we say good-bye to a very Special man and friend. We will miss you Gary, your kind gentle words of encouragement to us will never be forgotten. Until we meet again "Sing in Heaven" your Dad must be so happy to have you there.

Bob and Mikie Kinnaman - August 13, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ I still cannot quite believe I will not see that crazy bike rider zipping off to points south as I drive into work short of 7 AM tomorrow. There is an empty space in the light of day, something is missing. His trees are filled with fruit he will not harvest. But his spirit will know. The tree of life is stronger and more vital in his reflection.

Gary sensed the true energy of the world and he fed upon it. He was neither a follower nor a leader, simply his own soul. So full of life and energy was Gary, not many would be able to keep his pace. So he existed partly in the ether even as he rode, skied, hiked, and surfed here. Hard to accept my connection to something special will not be so easily touched as he surrenders his physical being. But so strong was his force and life, only a moment's reflection brings him to mind and his spirit remains palpable.

Thank you Lord and thank you Gary for your gifts.

Chick Clemmensen - August 13, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU ALL. WE CAN ONLY IMAGINE HOW DIFFICULT THIS LOSS IS FOR YOU ALL. WE LOVE YOU AND OUR PRAYERS CONTINUE FOR YOU. MAY GOD'S PEACE BE WILL YOU.

MICHAEL & DEBORAH TILDEN - August 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Seeing Gary at Heavenly always brightened my day. We had lots to talk about, whether the topic was medicine, mountaineering or ski patrol. I'll miss him a lot, as many were touched by him.

mike sullivan - August 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ My memories of Dr Dankworth are through working in the nursery at Carson Tahoe. They are all wonderful memories of a very caring physician excited to be touching a new life at the very beginning. A lovely caring person Dr. Dankworth.

Our thoughts and Prayers to his wife and family. His CTH family will miss him greatly.

Judith Alderson, RN, CTHRMC - August 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ As a fairly new member of the Heavenly Ski Patrol, I was just getting to know Gary. He impressed me with his zest for life and by how much he enjoyed the Creator's handiwork. He will be sorely missed, but it's comforting to know where he is now!

John Eckle - August 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ We will all miss you Gary

ralph Thomas - August 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ A sympathy card has been sent to the family of Dr. Gary Steven Dankworth c/o Autumn Funerals & Cremations funeral home.

August 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Gary has been my doctor for 28 years. My relationship was not only a professional one, but one of friendship. I am devastated by his loss, but am reminded that he is in heaven, a place he has earned repeatedly by helping many in our community in so many ways. I knew Gary to be a good husband, family man, and was generous of his time by helping out in the community. He helped not only his patients, but volunteered with the ski patrol and attended to the inmates at the local jail. He was a good Christian and touched all who knew him.

Gary was very good natured and soft spoken; he had a calming influence over me. I will greatly miss him and the stories we shared through the years. He will be missed by many, but none more than me. My heart goes out to his family.

God bless you Gary

Sincerely Wayne C. Nash

Wayne C. Nash - August 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Gary was a longtime member of the volunteer ski patrol at Heavenly Resort. Volunteering his time and expertise to assist others showed his true caring spirit. He will be missed.

Greg Felton - August 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Rest in Peace, Gary. Now you can climb mountains to your heart's content.

You are missed.

Jim McNeill - August 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Gary was my childhood doctor as well as soccer coach and father to my friend and class mate Bria.

I remember soccer parties and birthday parties at his house and visits to the doctor were never a bad experience, Gary would talk about snowboarding with me as well as the current school sport I was playing.

My heart and prayers go out to the family!

Lisa Wentworth - August 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Our deepest sympathy to Ann and the family. Dr Gary was our doctor for about 28 years. He was wonderful and caring to our whole family. We will miss him greatly.

Kirk Wentworth - August 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ My prayers are with your family Dr. Dankworth. I will never forget our talks about scuba diving. In fact the last thing you told me was that I needed to return to diving. That I will do because you always knew what was best for me. God bless you and keep you.

Debbie Hayward - August 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ In 1984 We moved to Carson City from the Midwest. I worked at the Hospital as a nurse. We had not yet found a family physician and our 2 y/o daughter was ill. Dr. Dankworth checked her out there in the nurses lounge free of charge. We were so thankful to him for that. I worked with him for over twenty years at CTH. Right before I retired we were both in the ED working away when he looked at me and said in his soft way " We've been here forever haven't we Pam. I was saddened to hear of his death but being married to an avid outdoorsman and backpacker, and a hiker myself, I can appreciate that he was in nature and close to God when he died. Our prayers go out to all of his family and close friends. We are so sorry for your loss.

Pamela French and family - August 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Our family was so sad to hear of Gary's untimely passing. We have many fun memories of sitting in the soccer stands, watching our sons play the sport they loved. Kirkwood remembered the skiing and surfing that he shared with Jason and Gary. He especially remembers the winter trip of camping in the winter and surfing on the coast. What great adventures Gary led. We will miss the wonderful role model he was of living life to the fullest. We pray for the whole Dankworth family.

Carol, Clint, Kirkwood, and girls, Misha and Katelyn - August 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Gary was a great man. I will miss him and his gentle spirit. On one hand I am sad over the loss of him but on the other hand I rejoice in knowing that he is in heaven with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. May God Bless the family with His peace.

Robin A. Williams - August 11, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Our sincere sympathy to you and your family. Dr. Dankworth was our doctor for 10 years and we are so sorry for your loss. God Bless you all.

Mike and Bobbie Mikesell

Owen and Bobbie Mikesell - August 11, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Both my husband Mike and I offer our thoughts and prayers for Dr. Dankworth's wife and family. Dr. Dankworth was our physician for many years. We will miss him very much. Sincerely, Melissa Allyn and Mike Ashworth.

Melissa Allyn - August 11, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ I worked for the hospital for 25 years and knew Dr. Dankworth. Whenever I got close to work and saw that 10-speed whizzing by, I knew it was Dr. Dankworth. I never knew him personally, but did many a dictation for him. The whole Carson City Community will miss him.

Mary Niederer - August 11, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ As a patient of Dr. Dankworth's for some 30 years, I will miss him immensely. He was one of those people who is loved and admired by many...substance along with grace. I pray that our creator showers the Danksorth family with comfort, peace and solace.

Audrey Allan - August 11, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Dr Dankworth, I knew the moment I first met you, you were a good man. You had taken care of my mom Shirley Dougherty during her fight with cancer. My mom and dad both thought very highly of you and I want to tell you thanks. God has another angel at his table that being you. You will be missed but never forgotten,

Jim Bewley - August 11, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ I will never forget the adventures of surfing together in Maui, mountain biking the Tahoe Rim Trail together, and plucking our guitars together in your living room as we worshiped God.

Kevin Dedmon - August 11, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ We were very fortunate to have had Dr. Dankworth as our Doctor for so many years. We very much appreciated all of his good advice and great care he took of us. He will be missed.

Danielle & Scott Overli - August 11, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ All our love and prayers to you Ann and family. Our family loved Gary and were all so blessed for the times we shared with him. Our hearts go out to you and pray you feel God's love and presence carrying you thru.

Gary and Diane Pepka - August 10, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Although I did not know Dr. Dankworth personally, I know of him through those of his patients who are my clients. Because of the positive comments I received it made it very easy for me to refer my clients to him when they were looking for a new physician. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family, his friends and his staff.

Julie Ann Utley - August 09, 2012 at 12:00 AM