



Gary A. Vandewater, DC

MAR 17, 1952 - SEP 2, 2011



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Gary A. Vandewater, DC

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Gary A. Vandewater, DC, age 59, passed away Friday, September 2, 2011 in Muskegon. He was born March 17, 1952 in Grand Rapids to Donald and Marion (Bursma) Vandewater and resided in the Muskegon area for over 35 years. Gary was a Doctor of Chiropractic, helping many patients over the years at his office on Apple Ave. He loved the outdoors, especially deer hunting and spending time at his cabin. On February 18, 1978, he married the former Betty Palmer, and she survives him along with 2 sons, BJ Vandewater and Jeff Vandewater both of North Muskegon; his mother, Marion Vandewater of Jenison; brother, Don (Kim) Vandewater of Jenison; sisters, Gale Vandewater of Grand Haven and Linda (Dan) Grzegorski of Goshen, IN; and many nieces and nephews. Gary was preceded in death by his father, Donald. FUNERAL SERVICES will be 11AM Wednesday at Community United Methodist Church (1614 Ruddiman Dr.) with Rev. Robert Lynch officiating. VISITATION with the family will be 6-8PM Tuesday at The Sytsema Chapel, Sytsema Funeral Homes, Inc. 737 Apple Ave. Muskegon, MI 49442 231-726-5210. Memorial Contributions to Community United Methodist Church will be appreciated. Share memories online with the family at www.sytsemafh.com.



Events

Gary A. Vandewater, DC

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Visitation

 **Tuesday**, September 6, 2011

 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM ET

 **Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services - The Sytsema Chapel**

737 E. Apple Ave., Muskegon MI 49442





Tribute Wall

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Anonymous posted:

One cannot begin to express words of empathy in your time of sorrow, but what I can do is share with you my brief encounters with Mr. Vandewater. A few months ago I came in to the practice with horrible neck pain and had terrible trouble moving it. After about four treatments my neck was phenomenal. Gary and I talked about hunting mainly. He thought it was pretty cool that I was a woman hunter. The next time I went in there I brought some Venison Burger in for him and his secretary. I told my husband after the last time I seen him how I sure would of liked to have a father like him. God Bless You and your family in this time of sorrow. It was a pleasure to have met him.##imported-begin##Nikki Tyler##imported-end##

September 14 at 12:40 AM



Anonymous posted:

RIP Doc Vandewater. You fought the good fight.##imported-begin##Mary Rewa##imported-end##

September 7 at 4:25 PM



Anonymous posted:

Our sincere condolences go out to your family. We will miss his smiling face and great sense of humor at the Deli!!!Our deepest sympathy, "Pat, Marcie and Mari at Wayne's Deli"##imported-begin##Wayne's Deli##imported-end##

September 7 at 1:43 PM



Anonymous posted:

Deepest sympathy to Betty and family on your loss of such a wonderful man. Gary was our chiropractor for over 20 years, always had time for us even on his lunch hour or weekend if necessary. He was a great guy and will be missed by many. God bless all of you for sharing him with us all these years.##imported-begin##Ken and Diane Korson and family##imported-end##

September 6 at 3:20 PM



Anonymous posted:

Betty, my thoughts are with you and yours at this time. We have been too far apart for too long to have gotten to know all of you better. (Cousin, San Jose, CA)##imported-begin##Dave Kurdelski##imported-end##

September 6 at 2:01 PM



Tribute Wall

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Anonymous posted:

Betty- So sorry for your loss. You and your family are in my thoughts are prayers.##imported-begin##Jill Davis##imported-end##

September 6 at 1:41 PM



Anonymous posted:

For Dr Gary s. Family, I am so sorry for your loss. I had been a patient of his for 35 years. I will never be able to replace the care or the friendship I received from him thru all those years. He was very proud of his family and was upset of his fear of flying. He so wanted to visit his boys and go on that last vacation with you Betty. I hope your hearts heal quickly and know that all of his patients will never forget what a kind man he was. Sincerely Sherrie Wilson Garrett##imported-begin##sherrie garrett##imported-end##

September 6 at 6:27 AM



Anonymous posted:

Betty, I am so sorry for your loss. You and your family are in my prayers.##imported-begin##Judy Wilson##imported-end##

September 5 at 8:30 PM



Anonymous posted:

Mrs. VandeWater & Family, I am so sorry for your loss, it is also a great loss to all the many many people he has helped through the many years. He was always ready, willing and able to help all, always willing to go the extra mile and go out of his way to help others, it seemed he always had the time to care for someone that was in pain. What a wonderful Doctor he was. You have my deepest sympathy. May you RIP Dr. VandeWater.##imported-begin##Roxanne Babcock##imported-end##

September 5 at 8:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

I will truly miss Gary. I've been getting "tune-ups" from him for over 30 years! I don't know where I'd be, if not for his "spinal touch treatments."He was a dedicated, caring doctor!Gary always ended our session with a warm hug and a positive word.My heart goes out to Betty and the family.##imported-begin##Mary M. Lewis##imported-end##

September 5 at 7:19 PM



Tribute Wall

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Anonymous posted:

I had been a patient of Dr. Gary for a few years before I brought my mother to him. She had had a botched back surgery and was in a lot of pain. After x-rays and an examination, with tear filled eyes, he said he could not help her. I admired his integrity and professionalism. I will miss Dr. Gary and his "Bonnie" stories. My deepest sympathy to the family.##imported-begin##Diane Brems##imported-end##

September 5 at 12:45 PM



Anonymous posted:

Our sincere sympathy in your loss. Gary was always very nice to us. We will miss him too.##imported-begin##Marilyn & Dick Orling##imported-end##

September 5 at 8:01 AM



Anonymous posted:

Dear Vandewater Family. So sorry to hear about your loss. Dr. Vandewater was a great guy. I will be thinking of you during this very difficult time. You will be missed Dr. Vandewater, Samie Sauser.##imported-begin##Samie Sauser##imported-end##

September 5 at 7:57 AM



Anonymous posted:

I met Dr. Gary in the early 1980s, thru a dear friend, who just "swore" by his technique. I had a senior care home then and as a victim of post-polio syndrome, I could not have endured my 18-hour work days, had it not been for Dr. Gary. His death is indeed, a tragic loss to the community! I not only respected him as the articulate doctor of chiropractic medicine, which he was....but also, as the fine Christian man he became. May God Bless you and the boys, Betty. Donna~##imported-begin##Donna Gouine Puisis##imported-end##

September 5 at 6:22 AM



Tribute Wall

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Anonymous posted:

Dear VandWater family. I only knew Gary for a couple of years. I was referred to him by a friend. However, upon meeting him for the first time I realized how special he was. He, I believe, possessed the charisma of healing. I could feel it. But what spoke to me most about this man when I approached him about it was his humble conviction that it wasn't he who was doing the healing. Rather, he was only the conduit - my healing came from God. I will always remember this very special man who shared his gift with so many.##imported-begin##Debbie Krieg##imported-end##

September 5 at 4:48 AM



Anonymous posted:

Over the 21 years Gary was my chiropractor, he became a friend. Always quick with a quip, always asking how I was doing. Always caring. We swapped stories about what char-acters our dogs were and how much weloved our 4-footed "kids." Bonnie will miss him too. Please be comforted by the knowledge that Gary was loved by so many and that he touched more lives with his care than even he could know.##imported-begin##Donna Esch##imported-end##

September 4 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

Dear Betty - It must have been a whirlwind of a week for you and your family. My heart goes out to you. Praying you will find peace with time.##imported-begin##Sue##imported-end##

September 4 at 5:29 PM



Anonymous posted:

To family you have my sympathy in loss of Gary you will him God knowes best.##imported-begin##Doris Roberson##imported-end##

September 4 at 3:51 PM



Tribute Wall

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Anonymous posted:

We send our love and sincere sympathy to all of you !!We were so happy to see Gary at the Bursma Reunion and know that he made a special effort to be there !! Having all the Vandewater cousins there helped make the day extra special!! My heart goes out to all of you at this most difficult time. May God grant you His Peace! Love Bud and Judy##imported-begin##Bud and Judy Harris and Family##imported-end##

September 4 at 9:30 AM



Anonymous posted:

Betty, BJ, Jeff, Gale, Linda, Don and Marion, everyone knows Gary is a very special person. My heart and prayers go out to each and everyone of you. I know that each time I screw up, Gary will put me back on probation from Heaven--that's okay, cuz I was Employee of the Month from September 2008 until September 2011. Love, Barb##imported-begin##Barb Zayaz##imported-end##

September 4 at 7:57 AM



Anonymous posted:

Please know our sincerest sympathy goes to you Betty, BJ, & Jeff and all the family. I know that we have never met but I have many fond childhood memories with Gary.Many get together at Uncle Don & Aunt Marion's house!! So much love and fun! He was very special. You are in our prayers.Much love,Jim & Carol O'Donogue##imported-begin##Jim & Carol O'Donogue##imported-end##

September 3 at 2:14 PM



Anonymous posted:

My sincere condolences to all of you. Gary was a wonderful man and will be greatly missed.God bless all of you!Patty Kurdelski (cousin in Tucson AZ)##imported-begin##Patty Kurdelski##imported-end##

September 3 at 1:18 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Gary A. by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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